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Inter-Arab Affairs

Morocco's Filali in New York To Lobby on Lebanon

JN0410164289 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Doha, Oct 4 (GNT)—Qatari Daily 'AL-SHARQ' quoting Arab sources in al-Ta'if, said the aim of the visit to New York which started last night by Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali, who is also member of the tripartite Arab committee on Lebanon, is to hold urgent contacts and consultations with representatives of the five permanent member states in the Security Council concerning south Lebanon especially on resolution 425 calling for the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Lebanese territories to allow for the deployment of the UNIFIL [UN Interim Forces in Lebanon] and the Lebanese Army along the border with Israel.

The sources expected that discussions on these issues would not take long in view of its connection with the pledges of support already received by the tripartite committee from regional and international circles.

Amal Issues Statement on Al-Ta'if Meeting

LD0410222489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the association of officials and cadres of the Amal Movement in a statement emphasized: The supervision of the Saudi regime over the gathering of the deputies of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies in al-Ta'if and America's direct presence in that gathering are clear proof that the meeting will not achieve a just solution to the crisis in Lebanon, because America and the Saudi regime have always played a role in strengthening the factional regime in Lebanon. In this statement the association of officials and cadres of the Amal Movement have stressed that alongside national and Islamic forces in Lebanon it will fight to prevent a compromise with Israel and the revival of the factional system in Lebanon.

The National Lebanese Front composed of all national groups and parties of that country in a statement has also described any confirmation of the factional system in Lebanon as providing a fertile ground for new wars and announced: The ending of the war in Lebanon will not be possible except by the ending and annulment of all factional privileges.

Further on Proceedings at Al-Ta'if Conference

Deputies End 8th Session

NC0410212489 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Following the conclusion of the eighth closed session of the Lebanese deputies meeting at the conference palace in al-Ta'if at 2130, the acting secretary general of the Chamber of Deputies read a statement on behalf of Speaker Husayn al-Husayni.

The statement noted that the discussion dealt with the abolition of political sectarianism, administrative organization, the judicial council, and the economic development council. It also emphasized the confidential nature of the sessions, adding that all reports on the proceedings therefore lack accuracy and objectivity.

9th Closed Session Ends

LD0510153289 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Lebanese Chamber of Deputies concluded its ninth closed working session at the conference hall in al-Ta'if at 1400 under the chairmanship of Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the chamber, and with the attendance of the chamber's members, who are in al-Ta'if for this purpose. This session was an opportunity to hear the opinions and proposals of a number of deputies with regard to the clauses of the Lebanese document of national concord drawn by the higher tripartite Arab committee to bring about peace, stability, and national reconciliation in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Chamber of Deputies will resume the proceedings of its 10th closed session at the conference hall in al-Ta'if later today.

Lebanese Correspondent Reports

NC0610074889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Dispatch by correspondent George Shahin from al-Ta'if—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] During their 10th 4-hour session last night, the Lebanese deputies completed their debates on the provision related to Lebanese-Syrian relations, and made observations on this topic. The only outstanding provision still to be discussed by the deputies pertains to the establishment of the Lebanese state's sovereignty. The discussion of this provision was postponed pending the outcome of the ongoing regional and international consultations.

According to knowledgeable parliamentary sources, it is possible that, in the series of meetings being held among the deputies and between the deputies and the Arab tripartite committee members, specialized committees may be formed that would undertake the discussion of this provision tomorrow, Saturday. [passage omitted]

At 2230 yesterday, the Chamber of Deputies information department issued the following statement:

The parliamentary gathering in al-Ta'if has ended its discussions of ways of liberating Lebanon from the Israeli occupation. It also reviewed the organization of Lebanese-Syrian relations. The deputies will hold further

consultations to investigate ideas and proposals with regard to the desired national accord. [passage omitted]

Committee Appeals to Diplomats

NC0510212189 Paris AFP in English 2046 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, Oct 5 (AFP)—A special Arab committee on Lebanon appealed Thursday to diplomats from the United States, France, Britain and Iraq to help soften the stand of Lebanese Christian leaders on a Syrian military withdrawal, diplomatic sources reported.

They said the French, British and Iraqi ambassadors to Saudi Arabia and the U.S. charge d'affaires met separately here with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, his Algerian counterpart Ahmed Ghazali and Moroccan Ambassador Ahmed Remzi. Lebanese MPs have been meeting in al-Ta'if since Saturday to review political reform proposals drafted by Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria and designed to end long-standing sectarian violence in Lebanon.

The committee wants the four diplomats to ask their governments to try to soften the stand of Christian leader Michel 'Awn, who is seeking a timetable for the complete withdrawal of some 35,000 troops stationed in Lebanon.

The meeting of parliament here has reached an impasse over demands by anti-Syrian Christian MPs for written guarantees that Syria will withdraw its forces according to a precise schedule.

The Arab plan calls only for an eventual "redeployment" of Syrian units to eastern Lebanon. Christian deputies have been unmoved by repeated assurances from Prince Sa'ud that Syria is prepared to pull out of Beirut six months after the formation of a new government of national unity.

Pro-Syrian Muslim MPs insist that a full withdrawal cannot take place until the implementation of reforms boosting the political power of the country's Muslim minority.

Iraq has been General 'Awn's principal supplier of arms, while the United States, France and Britain have all publicly supported the efforts of the Arab committee. The Arab initiative has also been backed by the Soviet Union, which has no diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

10th Session Concludes

LD0510214189 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Algerian Foreign Minister Sayed Ahmed Ghazali, and members of the ministerial committee attached to the higher Arab 3-man committee [on Lebanon], met in al-Ta'if today with 'Abd al-Wahab al-Sabbagh, Iraqi ambasador to the Kingdom, as well as with the French and British ambassadors and the U.S. charge d'affaires in the Kingdom.

Aspects of the Lebanese crisis were discussed during the two meetings in light of those currently being held by the Lebanese deputies in al-Ta'if. The two meetings were also attended by Dr Ahmed Ramzi, Moroccan ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and by Lakhdar Ibrahimi, representative of the higher Arab 3-man committee in charge of resolving the Lebanese crisis.

The Lebanese deputies ended their 10th closed working session at 2215 this evening at the Palace of Conferences in al-Ta'if. The session was chaired by Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, and was attended by all the deputies currently present in al-Ta'if. During the session, which lasted 3 and ½ hours, the deputies resumed their examination and discussion of the document of national concord drawn up by the higher Arab 3-man committee. They also listened to the opinions, suggestions, and viewpoints put forward by some of them on the clauses of this document which is aimed at achieving peace, stability, and national reconciliation in Lebanon.

The Lebanese chamber will resume its 11th closed working session the day after tomorrow, that is, on Sunday [8 October], God willing. [Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic at 2230 gmt on 5 October repeats the above report on the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies meeting in al-Ta'if. The report is identical to the above except for giving the date for resuming the dialogue as Saturday, 7 October, instead of Sunday, 8 October]

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Holds News Conference in Tokyo

JN0510181689 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], heac of the state of Palestine, yesterday concluded an official visit to Japan. At the end of the visit he held a news conference in which he described Japan's stand on the Middle East as strong, as it emphasizes complete Israeli withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, including their right to the establishment of their independent state, and the participation of the PLO in all peace processes. He said: My visit here is an indication in this regard. Following are the details of the news cnference:

Question: During your stay here, a meeting took place between President Mubarak and President Bush. According to news reports, it seems that the U.S. Administration has approved clarifications from the Egyptian side concerning the election of representatives to attend a preparatory meeting. It has been said that the U.S. Administration supports the general tendency calling for consultations among Egypt, Israel, and the United States. What do you think of these developments?

Answer: It is not easy for me to give an accurate answer to this question because I have so far received no official notices or memos from the Egyptian leadership in his regard. However, in general we support the efforts declared by President Bush and President Mubarak to boost the peace process in the region and achieve a meeting between Palestinian and Israeli delegations under international sponsorship to expedite preparation for a UN-sponsored international conference and with the participation of the UN Security Council five permanent member member states and all parties to the Middle East dispute, including the PLO. At any rate, based on what I unofficially learned, I say that the Mubarak-Bush talks were positive regarding the peace process in the region. We are optimistic that after this meeting the peace process will be pushed in the right direction.

Question: Regarding the international conference you talked about, the Israeli Government and the U.S. Administration have a negative stand on the international conference. Did you urge the Japanese Government to convince these two governments to effectively participate in an international conference?

Answer: I do not know why you strongly link the Israeli and U.S. stands. Are you speaking on behalf of the U.S. Administration? I am certain that you are not speaking on its behalf. Who told you that the U.S. Administration rejects the international conference? The U.S. Administration has officially accepted an international conference in principle. With regard to timing, the U.S. Administration sees that some preparations must be made for this conference. Therefore, you cannot link the U.S. and Israeli stands. The Israeli Government rejects everything. The Western press has called Shamir Mr No. He says no to the international conference, no to all peace initiatives, no to UN resolutions, no to international equality [as heard], no to withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967, no to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and no to the Palestinian people. He calls the Palestinian people the residents of Judaea and Samaria. He also says no to an independent Palestinian state and no to the PLO. What is left? Regarding my talks with the Japanese prime minister and foreign minister, we agreed to boost the peace process in the region with all means and at all levels.

Question: There is opposition in Congress to the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. How effective is this dialogue?

Answer: The United States is a democratic country. As we have our own democracy, we realize that everyone has the right to express his opinion. However, we eventually deal with a president and an administration.

Question: Did you ask the Japanese Government to urge the United States and Israel to end the misunderstanding which says that the PLO is a terrorist organization?

Answer: You are uttering Israeli rumors. Regrettably, I did not expect to hear these rumors in Japan. However, they do not disturb me. The British Empire called George Washington the mutineer. The Nazis termed De Gaulle a terrorist. And Mugabe was also called a terrorist. Mugabe has become the president of Zimbabwe and was elected chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. Many people have been termed this way, but now they represent their governments and peoples at the United Nations. Unlike Shamir, I am not wanted by Interpol. According to British police documents, Shamir is still wanted by Interpol. I am surprised how the British Government meets and talks with him. He personally took part in the murder of Count Bernadotte and the killing of high-ranking British officials like Lord Moyone. We must remember that the Israeli Government and army continue their crimes against our children, women, masses, and holy places. This is true terrorism. Nevertheless, we instructed our masses not to use firearms. The occupation forces use magnetic cards which resemble the yellow stars used by the Nazis in detention camps like Auschwitz. It is computerized discrimination. In spite of this, we will continue with our peace initiative because it is a strategy, and not a tactic.

Question: Strict security measures have been taken during your stay here.

Answer: Sharon announced several times that he is after me. Is not this a terrorist act by one of the key figures of the Israeli Government. It is the right of my friends here to take security measures.

Question: What about Japan's recognition of the state of Palestine?

Answer: We must take into consideration the situation in Japan. We did not come here to pressure our friends. We came to cooperate with them according to their situation and the international atmosphere around them. At the same time, what they told me is enough. In the future I will invite you and other reporters to visit the independent state of Palestine.

Question: What about Japan's trade relations with Israel?

Answer: I did not come to intervene in internal or foreign relations. However, what I do ask is to deal with the Palestinians and Arabs on an equal footing with the Israelis, including the exemption from customs fees of Israeli jewels.

Question: Did you talk with Japanese officials about Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens' scheduled visit to Japan next month?

Answer: No, I did not raise this issue at all. What is important for me is to discuss the Palestinian peace initiative with our friends here as well as the intensification of the Japanese role in preparation for the peace process and in the peace process itself. When peace is achieved in the region, then it will be: Live and let others live. This is the meaning of a solution based on two states and this is the meaning of the Palestinian peace initiative.

Question: How can Japan deal with you commercially?

Answer: The EEC deals with us without involving the Israeli occupiers. It deals with us directly through its chambers of commerce, societies, and municipalities.

Question: What about Mubarak's 10 points?

Answer: They are not 10 points. They are 10 queries. It is the Israelis who should respond to them.

Question: What about the status of Jerusalem? What about the elections? Will they be held under international supervision following the Namibia example?

Answer: I accept the solution approved by the United States for Namibia.

Question: How is the current stage related to the final solution of the Middle East crisis?

Answer: We are awaiting Israeli answers.

Question: What about the Japanese aid to you?

Answer: They pay contributions to the UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency] and some UN organizations. Go and ask UNRWA Commissioner-General Mr Giacomelli, who is currently visiting Japan, and he will inform you of the amount of this aid.

'Arafat on 2-Day Visit to PRC, Meets Leaders

Received on Tiananmen Square

HK0410120889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1203 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, Oct 4 (AFP)—PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat got a head-of-state's welcome here Wednesday as he began a 48-hour visit to China after his first official trip to Japan. Mr. 'Arafat was received in Tiananmen Square as president of the State of Palestine, with a red carpet, 21-gun salute, military band and honor-guard inspection with Chinese President Yang Shangkun.

Mr. Yang afterwards hosted a banquet for Mr. 'Arafat in the Great Hall of the People.

The Chinese authorities have given no details of Mr. 'Arafat's visit, which comes on the heels of a four-nation tour of the Middle East by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. On his last visit to Beijing in 1988, he had met with Zhao Ziyang, who was ousted as Communist Party general secretary after the June 4 crushing of student democracy protests.

Mr. 'Arafat is the second foreign visitor to be received in Beijing as a head of state since June 4, after Burkina Faso president Blaise Compaore in early September.

Meets Yang Shangkun

OW0410163889 Beijing XINHUA in English 1544 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, October 4 (XINHUA)—Chinese President Yang Shangkun met with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, at the Great Hall of the People here today.

Yang extended a warm welcome to Arafat on behalf of the Chinese Government and people.

Praising the Palestinian people's struggle over the past two decades, Yang said "We understand and sympathize with the Palestinian people and regard your victories as our own."

He spoke highly of the series of major and flexible policies the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has adopted recently and described them as a strong impetus to the peace process in the Middle East, which he said have won extensive acclaim in the international community.

Yang said that it is a major victory of the Palestinian people that the state of Palestine has gained recognition by more than 100 countries.

Yang said the dialogues which the PLO conducted with the United States gave a new impetus to the peaceful settlement of the conflicts between the Arab countries and Israel.

He said he believed the PLO will continue to strengthen its internal unity and its unity with Arab countries, and win new victories with the sympathy and support of all countries upholding justice.

Yang said the situation in Beijing and the whole country is stable after the quelling of the June anti-government rebellion in Beijing.

He stated that many foreign guests who attended the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China saw with their own eyes the stable situation in China.

'Arafat said that the Palestinian people will never forget the Chinese people's support when the Palestine movement was in its most difficult times.

He said he is one of the true friends of the Chinese people. "We've always been proud of the Palestinian-Chinese relations," he continued. "We felt anxious when turmoil occurred in Beijing and were glad when China quelled the anti-government riot and controlled the situation."

Before the meeting, Yang presided over a welcoming ceremony for his guests.

'Arafat and his party arrived here by special plane earlier today. This is his seventh visit to China and his first visit to China since the proclamation of the state of Palestine and his assumption of the presidency.

Yang Shangkun Hosts Banquet

OW0410164889 Beijing XINHUA in English 1615 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, October 4 (XINHUA)—China will unswervingly support the just cause of the Palestinian people, Chinese President Yang Shangkun said today.

At a banquet he hosted to welcome President of the State of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat, Yang spoke highly of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)'s recent flexible and practical policies and the realistic steps to promote the peace process adopted in the light of the developments of the Mideast situation.

The Chinese Government and people pay much attention to the development of the Mideast situation, stand unswervingly on the side of Palestine's just cause, and support the Palestinian people's struggle, Yang said.

"We appreciate and support President 'Arafat's efforts to seek a just settlement to the Palestine issue," he said. "We are for settling the Mideast issue through political channels, including the convening of an international conference on the Mideast under the auspices of the United Nations and other political means considered appropriate by the parties concerned, so as to achieve just and lasting peace in the Mideast."

The Chinese president called on the authorities to go with the tide of times, respond positively to the reasonable proposals and propositions of all parties. "This will not only benefit the development of the regional situation, but also conform to the interest of people in all Mideast countries, including the Israeli people," he said.

In his toast, 'Arafat praised China's principled stand of supporting the Palestinian people's struggle, which he said has boosted the Palestinian people's determination to continue the just struggle for peace on their motherland, the land of Palestine.

In the Mideast, he said, the savage policy pursued by Israel has gravely escalated, making the Palestinian people's life almost impossible.

He said, the Palestinian people have suffered immense losses, with 1,000 dead, 47,000 injured and 67,000 arrested.

"Despite that," he went on, "We remained determined to realize just peace in the Mideast. We've resolutely taken the initiatives of peace." He said the initiatives include: seeking a just political settlement through the convening of an international conference on Mideast under the auspices of the United Nations, welcoming the holding of free and democratic elections, and supporting means of settlement similar to the "Namibia Formula."

'Arafat Dinner Speech

JN0510182689 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 89

["Text" of speech by "Palestinian President" Yasir 'Arafat at a dinner banquet hosted in his honor by PRC President Yang Shangkun in Beijing on 4 October]

[Text] Your Excellency, dear Comrade President Yang Shangkun, dear comrades, dear brothers and sisters: It is a pleasure to be in your midst today, in your friendly country, and amid your great people. On behalf of our Palestinian people and my brothers the PLO Executive Committee members, and in my own name, I would like to extend my deep thanks to you for the great welcome and hospitality accorded to us since we arrived in Beijing, the beautiful capital of your country.

Only a few days ago, your friendly people marked the anniversary of the establishment of the PRC. This is an important and dear occasion. On this occasion, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes to the great Chinese people and also to their leadership and militant party. We wish you continued success in achieving the prosperity, welfare, and progress of the friendly Chinese people.

This is an important occasion for you to enhance the historic accomplishments and the great gains which you have won since the dawn of independence. Certainly, through these great and splendid accomplishments, the PRC has earned the admiration and appreciation of the peoples of the world. In addition, these accomplishments have enabled the PRC to play an influential role in world politics and in international forums. This is due to the march of construction and development led by all categories and classes of the people under the leadership of their militant party, the CPC, headed by its great leaders Mao Tse-tung, Zhou Enlai, Zhu De, Deng Xiaoping, and their comrades who have led this march, the march of construction and development to achieve economic progress and social prosperity.

We will not forget that the PRC—people, party, and government—has taken a firm and principled position in support of the just struggle and intifadah being waged by our people to end the Israeli occupation and establish their independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital and also to restore their inalienable national rights.

Allow me, therefore, to express to you, on behalf of our people, our revolutionaries, and our women and children, our warm thanks and deep appreciation for these invaluable positions which bolster our determination and resolve to forge ahead in our just struggle to achieve peace in Palestine, our homeland.

Comrade President: You expressed support and practical backing here when the friendly PRC announced its recognition of the state of Palestine immediately after we proclaimed the establishment of this state on 15 November of last year. Our people value highly this

comradely and militant stance. Our people are also sure that the PRC's support for them on all levels and in all forums will be bolstered and strengthened so that it can contribute, along with the support provided to us by the brothers, friends, and the freedom-loving nations everywhere, to gaining our national objectives of terminating the Israeli occupation and establishing our independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

Prior to the convening of the Palestine National Council [PNC] last year, I came to you to exchange views on regional and international developments. Today, we are coming to complete this dialogue and exchange views, as the region is witnessing a dangerous escalation in the arbitrary Israeli policy and also in Israel's perpetration of ceaseless and never-ending crimes against our people. Israel is also making it difficult for our people to secure a decent livelihood and expanding this policy and its crimes. It is pursuing an iron-fist policy. It is forcing our people to use magnetic cards. It is starving the people in the Gaza area in particular and imposing curfews and laying siege there in a bid to break the national will of our people.

Despite all the human and material losses sustained by our people, which have so far resulted in the martyrdom of approximately 1,000 persons, the wounding of more than 47,000, and the detention of approximately 67,000 prisoners, we are determined to achieve a just peace in the region. That is why we launched a daring peace initiative designed to produce a just political settlement through an international conference, which must be held under UN auspices and with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the State of Palestine and Israel and the other Arab states concerned with the conflict as well as the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, to secure the national and political rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state.

These resolutions were welcomed by the United Nations and by various regional groupings and blocs. Only Israel, which is receiving unlimited support from the U.S. Administration, rejected them. Moreover, we welcomed the holding of free and democratic elections as an integral part of a comprehensive peace process. We said that these elections must be held away from the Israeli occupation and under international supervision. We supported a solution formula modelled on the solution found for the Namibian conflict to achieve a just peace. The United States approved the solution found to resolve the Namibian conflict. However, it is refusing to endorse a similar solution in Palestine.

O comrades and friends, we look forward to seeing you support our endeavors to achieve a just peace in the region. We are sure that the PRC, with its strong influence and expanded relations on the international scene and the United Nations, can contribute, along with other states, to advancing peace efforts in the region to help accelerate the peace process in the region. It is revolution until victory.

'Warm' Talks With Deng Xiaoping

HK0610103489 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 6 Oct 89 p 1

[Dispatch from reporter Wen Xian: "While Meeting President 'Arafat, Deng Xiaoping Praises the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for Its Pragmatic and Flexible Policy"]

[Text] Beijing, 5 Oct (RENMIN RIBAO)—According to a report, Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, today praised the PLO for its pragmatic and flexible policy in recent years. He said: This is conducive to strengthening internal unity, winning over friends, and isolating enemies.

At the same time, he emphasized: So long as correct strategies and policies are adopted, the Palestinian people will certainly win their final victory.

While Deng Xiaoping was meeting Palestinian President 'Arafat in the Great Hall of the People this morning, he stated the above-mentioned views.

Deng Xiaoping told 'Arafat: We were pleased at every victory scored by the Palestinian people. You have won a considerable number of victories but not complete victory. However, no matter what happens we will support you.

'Arafat said: The late Chairman Mao said in those years that the road is tortuous while prospects are bright. This reflects Palestine's present situation.

After that, Deng Xiaoping said: It really is so. It is hoped that you will unite as one.

'Arafat declared: We have preserved our internal unity. This is the source of our persevering struggle for many years. We are very pleased to hear your suggestions, which are very valuable to us.

In the beginning of the meeting, Deng Xiaoping highly praised Sino-Palestinian friendship. He said: "We are the models of trusting and supporting each other for several decades. Our relationship is not an ordinary one." 'Arafat replied: "It is so. I cannot forget the situation in which the late Abu Jihad and I told our Chinese friends that we would begin our revolutionary struggle during our first visit to China."

After that, Deng Xiaoping said: "You have struggled for state sovereignty and national independence for approximately 40 years and it is as long as the time of founding the PRC. We should say that our 40-year friendship is just like 1-year friendship. After another 40 years, our 80-year friendship will be just like 1-year friendship. Our friendship is eternal."

'Arafat nodded again and again: "We cannot forget the friendly affection cherished by the Chinese people for the Palestinian people at all times."

At the end of the 20-minute meeting, Deng Xiaoping told the guest: Our meeting will be followed immediately by official talks between you and Premier Li Peng. You will also meet General Secretary Jiang Zemin this afternoon. Now they are in charge. If there is anything you want to talk about, just talk to them. We are old friends and today we have just met each other for a little while.

'Arafat said: This meeting is very important. Your meeting and views have enhanced our strength and boosted our morale.

Meets With Li Peng

OW0510092789 Beijing XINHUA in English 0904 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, October 5 (XINHUA)—Chinese Premier Li Peng and visiting President of the state of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat held talks here this morning in the Great Hall of the People.

Li extended a warm welcome to 'Arafat upon his current visit to China and congratulated him on being elected president of the state of Palestine.

Reviewing Palestinian-Chinese relations, 'Arafat said, "whether from the viewpoint of the relations between the two countries, or from the viewpoint of personal ties, we are old friends."

He added, "Whenever we encounter difficulties we always say, 'we may go and seek help from our Chinese friends.' We are true friends in need."

'Arafat briefed Li in detail on the current situation in the Middle East and the struggle of the Palestinian people, as well as on the positive efforts made by the Palestine Liberation Organizaton (PLO) for a political settlement of the Middle East issue.

He stressed that although the Palestinian people face many difficulties, internal unity is solid, the morale of the people is high and the international situation is favorable. "We are determined to carry our just struggle through to the end," he said.

Li said, "the Chinese Government's stand on the Palestinian people's struggle is clear i.e., we have always opposed the agression and expansion policy of Israel and support the Arab and Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their lost land and national rights."

The struggle of the Palestinian people is gaining the understanding and support of an increasing number of people all over the world, Li said.

He stated that China has officially put forward a five-point proposal to promote the peace process in the Middle East.

The proposal points out that China advocates political means for a solution to the Middle East question, supports the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East presided over by the United Nations and participated in by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and various parties concerned, and urges direct dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel.

The ten-point peace plan put forward by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is a positive one, Li said, adding that he hoped all parties concerned would make new efforts to promote the peace process in the Middle East through dialogue.

Li also expressed his deep concern over the situation in Lebanon.

After the talks, Li gave a dinner for 'Arafat and his party.

Li Peng Presents Mideast Proposal

OW0510082489 Beijing XINHUA in English 0810 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, October 5 (XINHUA)—Chinese Premier Li Peng announced a five-point proposal in the name of the Chinese Government on the Middle East question here today.

While holding talks with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, Li said that to promote the peace process in the Middle East the Chinese Government formally put forward the following five-point proposal:

(1) The Middle East question should be solved through political means and all parties should refrain from using force.

(2) China supports the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East presided over by the United Nations and participated in by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and various parties concerned.

(3) China urges the various parties concerned in the Middle East to hold various forms of dialogue, in whichever ways they deem appropriate, including direct dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel.

(4) Israel must stop suppressing the Palestinian residents in areas it occupies and withdraw from the occupied Arab land; accordingly, Israel's security should also be guaranteed.

(5) The state of Palestine and the state of Israel should extend mutual recognition, and the Arab and Jewish peoples should coexist peacefully.

Jiang Zemin Meets 'Arafat

HK0610123489 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 6 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by Wen Xian: "Jiang Zemin Meets 'Arafat, Stresses China's Firm Support for Palestinian People's Struggle"]

[Text] 5 Oct (RENMIN RIBAO)—Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, met with Palestinian President 'Arafat in Zhongnanhai this afternoon.

Jiang Zemin told 'Arafat: "I would like to extend a warm welcome to you on your visit and, on the other hand, belated congratulations on your assumption of the presidency of the State of Palestine. You have got a very tight schedule and come and go in a hurry. We admire you for your vigor and energy." He also said that this morning, Comrade Deng Xiaoping, at the advanced age of 85, met with you, our old friend. This shows that there is profound friendship between us and that China firmly supports the Palestinian people in their just struggle.

Referring to the Middle East issue, Jiang Zemin said: Although the Palestinian people are facing many difficulties, from our own experience of hard struggle over the past many years, we know that difficulties often go along with a bright future. The struggle of the Palestinian people is an arduous and protracted struggle. I am convinced that as long as the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian people maintain internal unity and persevere in their struggle, they will certainly win final victory under the leadership of President 'Arafat.

'Arafat briefed Jiang Zemin on the current situation in the Middle East, the crux of the Middle East question, and the PLO's plan for a peaceful solution to the question. He said that this plan has received positive responses and support from many countries.

He once again expressed sincere thanks for the consistent and firm support the Chinese Government and people have given to the Palestinian people in their just struggle.

'Arafat Leaves Beijing for GDR

OW0610020989 Beijing XINHUA in English 0105 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Beijing, October 6 (XINHUA)—President of the State of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat wound up his official goodwill visit to China and left here by special plane early this morning for the German Democratic Republic.

Among those present at the airport to see him off was Chinese Minister of Aerospace Industry Lin Zongtang.

PLO Official Interviewed on New Plan, Jordan

JN0610092389 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Oct 89 p 19

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad by an unidentified AL-SIYASAH correspondent—date, place not given]

[Text] [AL-SIYASAH] The fourth round of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue was marked by inflexibility and Washington's backing of Shamir's plan. This gave the impression that the PLO is seeking to adapt to these developments through a new political formula that may help the PLO to go along with the region's political developments.

[Ahmad] Despite the political gains achieved by our political program, and because of the attempts to bypass these gains with another program that will empty our political action of its meaning, as well as the emergence of U.S. procrastination in the dialogue and the U.S. Administration's attempts to sell Shamir's plan internationally, we in the Palestinian leadership decided to respond with an integrated plan that includes a mechanism to implement our political program. We will present this plan soon and at the appropriate time.

[AL-SIYASAH] May we know the features of this plan?

[Ahmad] It is the same as the Palestinian peace plan but it includes a mechanism for implementation that will lead to the convening of the international conference for peace. The new plan will explicitly state the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in order to respond to the media campaign through which the U.S. Administration is trying to sell the Shamir plan. Furthermore, with this plan we will respond to the U.S. attempts to portray us in the eyes of the world as if we rejected the principle of elections in the occupied territories. In our plan, we will say yes to elections having a specific course and that will constitute a link in an integrated mechanism to reach the international conference.

[AL-SIYASAH] What will be the nature of the U.S.-Palestinian relationship after this plan is proposed? And, will you continue your dialogue with the U.S. Administration?

[Ahmad] Although we know that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue has not brought about a major change in the United States' position, we will continue in it especially since it is part of our political and media battle on the international arena. We must employ all the means that may help us influence the United States' position, which is still biased in favor of Israel.

[AL-SIYASAH] What kind of U.S. reaction do you expect to your new plan?

[Ahmad] We do not have the illusion that there will be a major change in the U.S. stance. The new project will constitute one of the methods in the open battle to influence U.S. public opinion and Washington's allies.

[AL-SIYASAH] What intrigues those who monitor the Palestinian political movement is the fact that in spite of all the signs indicating that the Palestinian political moves have not achieved anything worthwhile on the road to final settlement, you continue to propose political plans. This at a time when you have a tool with international legitimacy that will help you gain your legitimate rights—that is, armed struggle. Why do you not pay attention to that aspect? Why do you not employ weapons instead of stones in the intifadah?

[Ahmad] One cannot say that the Palestinian political move has not achieved anything. The international situation, in which there was more understanding of the Palestinian people's just demands, was not created in a vacuum. If it were not for this political move and the escalation in the intifadah activities, this situation would not have been achieved. We must also not forget the fact that political action in itself is hard and achievements do not appear instantly but through the accumulations that will in the end lead to changes for the benefit of our cause.

I believe that our political program has caused confusion inside the Israeli entity. It has also introduced some change into U.S. public opinion. This all refutes the claim that the Palestinian political move has been fruitless. No judgment should be passed on political moves before sufficient time has elapsed. In fact, political movement needs a long time before its positive results come to fruition. As regards armed struggle, we have not excluded this option from any of our decisions. Although we realize that using arms is a legitimate right approved by international law and has been distinguished from terrorism, in a situation like ours the means with which to confront the enemy are important. Perhaps it is one of the ingenious achievements of the intifadah that it managed to take away Israel's ability to effect a lightning strike and turned the Israeli Army from a professional army possessing a high standard of technology into a police-like army confronting demonstrations and women and children.

One of the most splendid results achieved by the Palestinian confrontation of the occupation is that it made the Israeli army unable to be decisive. This has created a state of dissatisfaction among the ranks of the occupation authorities. For this and other reasons, we believe that the stonethrowing stage is still required. The future is open to all possibilities because the current stage is that of intensive political action on the international level in order to expose the falsehood of Israel's alleged freedom, democracy, and peace intentions. We will go ahead along this course with the political process to which we adhere.

[AL-SIYASAH] Within the same context, will other operations like the bus operation introduce changes into the equation in favor of the Palestine question?

[Ahmad] Although the bus operation had its effects—a violent argument emerged among the rabbis over which comes first: keeping the land or averting Jewish bloodshed—but this alone does not lead to the required qualitative change, especially since the intifadah is still effective. I believe every pressure on Israel, be it through stones, the bus, or Molotov cocktails, will certainly help expedite the change process in favor of the peace process in the region.

[AL-SIYASAH] Will your new plan include other Palestinian concessions, like the cancellation of the national charter and a final reduction in armed struggle, in order to reach a political settlement?

[Ahmad] There will be no more Palestinian concessions, because what the PLO has offered is the end. It is what the Palestinians and the Arabs can offer, and what is internationally accepted. The plan will be an explanation of the peace program adopted by the Palestine National Council and will set a mechanism for some procedural steps for the convocation of an international conference.

[AL-SIYASAH] What do you mean by procedural steps, and what will this mechanism be like?

[Ahmad] Let us not get ahead of events and let us leave this issue until it is time.

[AL-SIYASAH] What about the Palestine Charter in the new plan? Will it be subject to cancellation?

[Ahmad] It will not be subject to cancellation, neither in this plan nor in any coming stage.

[AL-SIYASAH] Where does the Palestinian "caduque" fit within this context?

[Ahmad] The Palestinian "caduque" does not mean cancellation. The international circumstances surrounding us make the charter currently outdated.

[AL-SIYASAH] But the "caduque" came after Mitterrand asked 'Arafat to remove the contradiction between this charter and the Palestinian political program. Does this mean cancellation?

[Ahmad] At any rate, the word "caduque" is a French legal term. In order not to get too deeply involved in legal interpretations, let me end the conversation about this subject by saying that as a politician I understood the Palestinian "caduque" the way I have already explained.

[AL-SIYASAH] On the other hand, it is observed from the statements made by Palestinian officials recently that there is unanimity on bringing the international conference to the limelight once again after it had been ignored for a while. Does this mean that in the next phase you plan to harden your position in order to pressure Washington and Tel Aviv?

[Ahmad] No. The international conference is one of the points of difference between the U.S. and Palestinian stands. While we consider the dialogue with Washington the key to the international conference, the U.S. Administration considers it the key to direct negotiations

between us and Israel. Therefore, all efforts in our next move, or in the moves made by our friends and brothers, will concentrate on overcoming the difficulties facing the convening of the international conference.

[AL-SIYASAH] Do you expect Washington to agree in the end to the convening of the international conference? Are there any Palestinian bets on this?

[Ahmad] The destiny of peoples is not determined through a political program alone. We are living through international detente nowadays and this necessitates that local forces have an important role in influencing world public opinion, especially since there is no struggle on our region.

If we manage to further exploit this state of affairs to activate, entrench, and support the intifadah in terms of organization, and if we manage to harden the Arab position and increase Arab action which will have all options open to it—this will twist the arm of any force trying to oppose the international trend toward the need to find a solution to the suffering of the Palestinians and the Middle East problem. Without this, the U.S. Administration will not change its stand; the dialogue—or the plowing in the sea—with Washington will continue.

[AL-SIYASAH] Are you in the Palestinian leadership satisfied with the level of the intifadah's militant action in light of this political stalemate which, it is said, negatively influences the intifadah?

[Ahmad] It is known that the U.S. Administration is trying to gain time to create a number of circumstances that will adversely affect the intifadah. What is taking place now in the Arab region—whether the increasing violence in Lebanon, the deadlock in the Palestinian-U.S dialogue, and the stagnation of the Iraq-Iran peace talks—aims to influence Arab support and acceptance of the intifadah. Israel managed to employ these circumstances to escalate its campaign against the intifadah, which realized what is going on around it and hence increased its militant activities and presented new methods for a more effective action.

I believe the acts of violence in Lebanon gave the impression that the intifadah had cooled down. Therefore, we believe that what is mainly required now is to convene an Arab summit to emerge from this crisis and to prevent the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis, especially since this will negatively influence the intifadah and the whole of the Arab situation.

[AL-SIYASAH] It has been noticed recently that you give special attention to the relationship with Jordan. What is your political basis in this?

[Ahmad] It is known that by disengaging from the West Bank, Jordan has gradually removed all the factors that adversely influenced the relationship with Jordan and the positive factors began to grow. The visit of Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to Jordan was marked with fully identical political views on all issues. Agreement was also reached to set up a joint coordination committee to study the most precise details and to continue to exchange views on all issues.

[AL-SIYASAH] What is your stand on a confederation with Jordan? It is said that a confederation will help end the state of political stalemate witnessed by the peace process.

[Ahmad] Confederation is not a solution. The solution is the mechanism we will propose to implement our political program. I believe that raising the issue of a confederation before liberation is a political mistake. This is due to the nature of the dispute. The central Palestinian stand in general sees the issue of confederation as being raised after the establishment of an independent state. This is agreed with the Jordanian brothers. Any talk about a confederation now will give a justification for Israel to concoct lies, and will consequently help it avoid seeking a solution with the Palestinian people themselves. This is especially since the Likud is exerting huge efforts to reach a solution with the Arab states because it does not want to recognize the Palestinian people and seeks to turn the problem from one of rights to one of disputed borders.

[AL-SIYASAH] Following Jordan's recent granting of facilities to West Bank citizens, some people said that these facilities strongly point to Jordan's intentions to disavow the disengagement decision. Has this been raised during the Palestinian president's recent visit to Jordan?

[Ahmad] No such matters have been raised. Jordan took measures such as allowing the Palestinian products to pass through and issuing certificates of origin because it is greatly interested in the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied homeland.

[AL-SIYASAH] Interpretations also say that Jordan's disavowal of the disengagement decision may help it overcome its economic crisis.

[Ahmad] I believe that Israel's campaign against the dinar has been one of the most important factors leading to the Jordanian economic crisis. This campaign was designed to create hotbeds of tensions outside the occupied territories in order to distract attention from what is taking place inside the occupied territories. The PLO was alert to this and issued instructions to the effect that the Jordanian dinar remain the only currency in use in the occupied territories.

[AL-SIYASAH] This does not refute the rumors that say that the PLO extended financial aid to Jordan.

[Ahmad] These rumors are baseless. The PLO did not extend any financial aid to Jordan because it is not capable of doing so. The PLO requests assistance and financial aid from the Arab brothers. Moreover, the brothers in Jordan did not request aid because they know the actual financial situation of the PLO.

[AL-SIYASAH] Brother Abu-Ahmad ['Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad], in a number of interviews with Palestinian officials, used to ask one specific question regarding the PLO's decision to halt contacts between Palestinian figures and Israeli officials but I never obtained an answer on the real reasons behind this decision. Can you explain this to me?

[Ahmad] I believe the decision to halt these contacts came late. I believe that these contacts should not have been made anyway, especially since Shamir had many ulterior objectives.

First, he wanted to find a leadership alternative to the PLO. Second, he wanted to show that the continuation of this dialogue would create common denominators between our people inside [the occupied territories] and the Israeli Government. Third, and most important, he wanted to delude world opinion into believing that there are two logics inside the occupied territories—one that believes in dialogue, and this is practiced by the Israeli Government, and the other in violence, and this is also being practiced. Hence, the victim and the executioner will be equal before the world. And, fourth, he wanted to gain time through this dialogue, which began to steal the media lights from the intifadah, with the aim of destroying our people's revolution inside the occupied territories.

Shamir was putting on the gentleman's suit in the morning to hold dialogue with us and the general's uniform in the evening to oppress us. In addition to all that, the U.S.-Israeli objective behind this dialogue was to divide the Palestinian people into those inside and those outside.

[AL-SIYASAH] Does this decision of yours apply to the contacts made between Palestinian and Israeli officials in European countries?

[Ahmad] So far, no direct meeting has taken place. This is due to the Israeli Knesset's law which forbids Israeli officials from meeting with PLO leaders although they sent us official and registered letters through mediators and channels which they know of.

[AL-SIYASAH] Let us suppose that, eventually, Israel specified the names of certain Palestinian leaders to hold the dialogue with, and that you—who is known for his reserved positions on many of the PLO's policies—were included on that list. Will you agree to meet with the Israelis?

[Ahmad] Please allow me not to answer this hypothetical question. Since this has not happened, what is the use of answering it?

[AL-SIYASAH] Certain security information stated that the extremist Palestinian groups have recently formed hit squads to assassinate the Palestinian leaders who meet with Israeli officials in Europe. The same information revealed that one of those squads followed PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Yahya in an Arab capital.

[Ahmad] I have no official information on this subject. The information I have suggests is that Israel plans to carry out a series of assassination attempts against Palestinian leaders. There is also information from many sources that suggests that Palestinian leaders are targeted.

[AL-SIYASAH] How far did the efforts to improve your relations with Syria reach?

[Ahmad] Quote me on this: There is no future for the Palestinian-Syrian relationship. [blank line follows] In addition, this gives justification for Israel's refusal to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and its rejection of any formula for coexistence inside Jerusalem.

'Abdallah Hurani Comments on Palestinian State

JN0210170589 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 1 Oct 89 p 14

[Fathi al-Barqawi dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani has asserted that the establishment of the Palestinian state is, first and foremost, the Palestinian's business. He also asserted that after all the sacrifices made in the past 70 years, which are still being made, the Palestinian people have the right to achieve independence for their state.

In a statement to AL-BAYAN, Hurani added that confederation between Jordan and Palestine is a question that was approved by the Palestine National Council and the PLO still adheres to it, but this confederation must come after the establishment of the Palestinian state, not before.

Hurani said: It is the duty of the Arab states to support the demand for Palestinian independence because the Palestinian people have no less a right than their Arab brothers to have an independent state.

This came in response to statements by two Arab leaders in which they said they do not believe there is agreement among Arab states regarding the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Answering a question on a statement made by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to the French magazine LE FIGARO in which he declared his support to the independence of Palestine and said that a confederation between Palestine and Jordan would provide greater stability in the region, Hurani said that it is for the Palestinian people to make a decision in this regard and that the intifadah's clear decision is the establishment of the Palestinian state first.

Mustafa Terms U.S. Stand on Palestine 'Stubborn'

JN0410192889 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 31

[By Fathi al-Barqawi from Tunis]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Abu-'Ali Mustafa [Mustafa al-Zibri] has termed the U.S. stand vis-a-vis the Palestine question as stubborn. He added that this stand is indicative of total bias toward Israel. He went on to say that this does not allow us to expect serious moves forward in the near future.

In an exclusive statement to AL-ANBA', the PLO Executive Committee member expressed the belief that the U.S Administration is maneuvering to give the Israeli Government more time to kill the intifadah and obtain further concessions from the PLO, without giving anything in return.

Abu-'Ali Mustafa affirmed that the current situation dictates that the PLO activate its political moves on three fronts. The first front concerns continuing and developing the intifadah, as it constitutes the main guarantee amid all political repercussions pertaining to the Palestine question, Abu-'Ali Mustafa said.

The second front concerns activating the Arab side as well as the Arabs' commitment to the Casablanca summit resolutions, particularly those pertaining to the role of the seven-member committee and its contacts with the influential world forces, Abu-'Ali Mustafa added. The Arabs must make the United States feel that its interests in the region will be harmed if it sticks to its current political stand, he said. The PLO Executive Committee member indicated that the United States does not feel that there are any strong pressures forcing it to change its policy, the PLO Executive Committee member added.

The third front concerns the need to convince the socialist bloc states, as well as the West European states, of the need to impose punitive and deterrent sanctions on Israel for its perpetration of crimes against the Palestinian people that are more heinous than those perpetrated by the racist South African regime.

The Palestinian official also called for the attainment of a practical formula through international moves. He said that this formula must reflect the international consensus on the need to prepare for the convening of an international conference in implementation of the UN General Assembly resolutions, especially those entrusting UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar with making moves in this regard. He revealed that the Palestinian delegation to the United Nations deliberations headed by Foreign Minister Faruq Qaddumi [title as published] will ask the current UN General Assembly session about the measures taken to implement the recommendations made last year.

Abu-'Ali Mustafa expressed the belief that working on these three fronts will thwart the attempts being made by parties which he failed to identify, to weaken the Palestinian peace initiative or relegate it to second place.

The PLO Executive Committee member pointed out that the continued dealing with the political maneuvers staged by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and others will help push the Palestinian initiative into oblivion when political deliberations are held on the Palestine question in the international arena. He called for displaying more clarity and firmness to counter the attempts to undermine the Palestinian people's national rights and their representative.

Abu-'Ali Mustafa added that both the United States and Israel are seeking to rule out the involvement of the Palestinian people's representative at the first phase in a bid to obscure national rights.

The Palestinian official indicated that he has no fears about the time factor. He added that the PLO has in mind a long term militant program. He went on to say that Palestinian leaders should never delude themselves into believing that victory will be scored overnight.

Abu-'Ali Mustafa referred to the Swedish mediation between the PLO and the U.S. Administration. He described the U.S. offer as one lacking in seriousness despite the fact that Swedish Foreign Minister Andersson expected that this fall will bring fruitful results.

The PLO official said that the messages relayed by the Swedes contain nothing more than promises about the possibility of reactivating the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue, and allowing it to discuss substantial issues. He indicated that the United States is not serious and does not intend to allow this to happen.

The PLO Executive Committee member said he feared the Swedes might dupe the Palestinian side. He said the Swedes should in the first place have asked the United States to honor the pledges they had previously.

Hani al-Hasan Describes Consultations in France

PM0510101389 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 30 Sep 89 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Hani al-Hasan Tells AL-MADINAH: Agreement on Preliminary Talks With Israel"]

[Text] Riyadh—Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, has told AL-MADINAH that he recently held important talks in Paris with senior French officials, indicating that no political move is made without consulting France, as a friend of the Palestinian people.

He added: Prior to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States there was a need for us to meet with French official and discuss what was happening. We in the PLO consider France a principal player in the

process of securing international guarantees for the region to ensure the success of the peace process.

In that regard the Palestinian official stressed: We do not see any guarantees excluding France as valid or effective. This is why we presented to the French officials the proposal raised by President Yasir 'Arafat, namely the PLO's agreement to hold preliminary talks in Cairo between an authorized Palestinian delegation and a delegation from the Israeli Government, provided that they are a preparation for starting a dialogue on the possibilities of convening an international conference, to be attended by the five Security Council states as well as the other parties concerned.

Hani al-Hasan added: There is no longer a gap between the Palestinian position and the French position in terms of the political objectives. This has been the case since the the Madrid EEC statement, to the drafting of which France made a substantial contribution and which recognized the Palestinian people's right to self-determination as well as Israel's right to security.

The Palestinian official emphasized that the PLO and France continue to advocate the international peace conference on the Middle East, pointing out that the PLO met with French support for any step step designed to foster dialogue between the Palestinians and the Israelis so long as it leads eventually to the convening of the international conference.

Furthermore, Hani Al-Hasan stressed that the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation is an important part of the resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council in Algiers and also by the recent Fatah congress. He said that these resolutions accept the aim of establishing a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, provided that that confederation is voluntarily entered into by the two peoples, but the pressing question is: When will the Israeli withdrawal take place in order to establish that confederation?

PFLP Official Comments on Jordanian Arrests

JN0610091789 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0903 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] An official Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] source has commented on the Jordanian authorities' arrest of a number of PFLP members in Jordan by saying: This detention campaign is part of the plot to pass the Shamir-Mubarak plan and serves the policy of striking against the Palestinian intifadah in the occupied territories.

The source stressed that the detainess have no connection with any military action.

The Jordanian authorities accused the detainees—who number between 7 and 12 people—of firing Katyusha rockets on Israel from Jordan on 7 September.

Algeria

USSR Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 4 Oct

LD0510110689 Algiers APS in English 1021 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Algiers, 5/10/89 (APS)—As part of the development of cooperation and exchanges between the National People's Assembly and the Soviet parliament, a Soviet parliamentary delegtion led by Gaibnazar Pallayev, vice president of Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet in the Soviet Socialist Republic of Tajikistan is since Wednesday here for a several day official visit.

Correction to FLN Statement on Past Year

LD0610073389

The following correction pertains to the item published on page 6 of the 5 October Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT.

Column one, paragraph six, second sentence make read: ...that some of those who did not even participate in the making of Algeria's historic liberation war decided to ride on the waves of the October events. However, the attempt... (supplying dropped line)

Egypt

'Abd-al-Majid Denies Plans to Visit Israel

NC0610093689 Cairo MENA in English 0846 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] 'AL-AHRAM gave prominence on its front page to a report quoting Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid as stating that Egypt did not propose a list of names for the Palestinian delegation and pointed out that the delegation would be formed by the Palestinians themselves.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid also denied a report by Radio Israel claiming that he would pay a visit to Israel next week. [passage omitted]

Ghali, USSR's Tarasov on Dialogue Conditions

JN0510211689 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from New York, carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Egypt was not surprised by the Israeli Government's postponement of its decision on Egypt's call for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue without preconditions to be held in Cairo.

I have learned that Egypt was well aware that Israel would postpone its decision on this issue for 1 week or longer, depending on the possible emergence of any excuse that the Israeli prime minister might use to justify his failure to enter such a dialogue.

The United States is expected to continue its moves by sending U.S. State Department envoys to Israel and Egypt to follow up the situation pertaining to the current peace endeavors.

The U.S. ambassador in Cairo followed this up with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid and Dr Usamah al-Baz in Cairo today. In New York, Soviet officials expressed their doubts on the possibility of launching this dialogue which would lead to a comprehensive solution. Gennadiy Tarasov, USSR deputy foreign minister, told me that Shamir will continue to postpone a decision. However, if the dialogue is held, the USSR will be ready to participate as an observer as desired by Egypt, he added. He went on to say that the USSR has not so far received an official invitation in this regard.

At the United Nations, Dr Butrus Ghali informed me that Egypt is holding consultations with the PLO and that the Palestinian and Egyptian positions confirm the need to ensure the delegation is composed of figures from inside and outside the territories. He added that the delegation from inside the territories must represent the West Bank, Gaza, and occupied Jerusalem.

As for Shamir's statement on his readiness to hold consultations with Egypt and the United States on the formation of the delegation, Dr Butrus Ghali said: Egypt can only act after it contacts the PLO, which will voice its own opinion in this regard.

Mubarak Chairs Armed Forces Council Meeting

NC0510131089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1129 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, chaired a meeting of the Armed Forces Higher Council this morning.

In the 1 and ¼ hour meeting, the president and the council members reviewed the general security situation in the region, the development of the peace process, and all international issues which either directly or indirectly affect the domestic situation. Particular emphasis was placed on issues related to Egyptian national security.

Upon his arrival at the Defense Ministry headquarters, President Mubarak was received by General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Lieutenant General Safiy al-Din Abu-Shinaf, Armed Forces chief of staff; Air Force Commander Lieutenant General 'Ala' Barakat; Lieutenant General Mustafa al-Shadhili, Air Defense Forces Commander; and Navy Commander Vice Admiral Muhammad Sharif al-Sadiq. [passage omitted]

YAR's President Salih Telephones Mubarak

NC0410202089 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Yemen Arab Republic President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih telephoned President Husni Mubarak this afternoon. The two leaders exchanged views on the current situation in the Arab arena and recent developments in the region.

Weapons Cache Seized, Arrests Made in Tanta

JN0410080089 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 5

[By Hasan 'Abd-al-Hamid]

[Text] Tanta—The al-Gharbiyah investigation bureau has seized a large cache of automatic weapons and newly-made revolvers in Kafr al-Sa'aidah in Tanta. The store is owned by a gang selling weapons at very high prices to citizens and thieves dangerous to the public security.

Five of the members of the gang were arrested, and investigations are underway to locate two others.

Prosecuting attorneys Hisham al-Jundi and Tariq 'Abd-al-'Azim have begun investigation under the supervision of the attorney general.

Morocco

Tajik Official Conveys Gorbachev Message

LD0310171989 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Excerpt] At noon today at the Royal Palace in Skhirat, His Majesty King Hassan II received Talbak Nazarov, chairman of the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who was accompanied by two Supreme Soviet deputies and the Soviet Embassy charge d'affaires.

During the audience the Supreme Soviet deputy conveyed a private message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to His Majesty King Hassan II. His Majesty King Hassan II then decorated the Soviet official with the Grand Sash of the Alawite Order. [passage omitted]

Sudan

People's Committees To Promote Voluntary Work

EA0210140289 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1717 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Speech by Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir at opening of product exhibition in Khartoum North—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the compassionate the merciful. [passage omitted]

Brothers, we in the revolution are making serious plans to involve the people so that they can share responsibility with us. When we took over we did so not in order to rule the people, but in order to prepare them to rule themselves, without any cheating.

The people's committees in the national capital and the salvation committees in the regions will be the best spokesmen for popular participation in power. We intend through these committees to achieve the real dissolution of the parties through the abandoning of division and disunity and the unification of ranks and voices in the building of the homeland. Through these committees we shall foster the idea of voluntary work so that we can achieve salvation for ourselves. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Paper Interviews Foreign Minister

JN0510114889 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 13

[Interview with Sudanese Foreign Minister 'Ali Sahlul by Fathi Aldu Muhammad in Khartoum—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Muhammad] There were statements made by leaders of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council regarding Sudan's intention to join one of the existing Arab groupings.

[Sahlul] The objective behind any statements leading to such an impression is to show that we do not want to shut the door in the face of any future trend. However, we like to assert that any step must be taken on the basis of mutual benefit. I believe that the previous unity and integration attempts failed because they were based on slogans and sentiment and not on the basis of common interest. Therefore, from now on, our determination will be based on sound realistic bases designed to achieve these objectives. Top priority is now given to the issue of peace and to the solution to the southern problem, and also to remedying economic failings. Hence, it is out of the question for us to join this or that bloc in the current circumstances. This does not mean we deny that we have the intention in the future, but the current circumstances do not allow us. When the circumstances allow and when these groupings score gains, the circumstances will become the right ones.

[Muhammad] The mere talk about this subject may exacerbate the conflict between the government and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], especially since the latter has always called for keeping away from alliances, particularly with Egypt and Libya. What do you think about that?

[Sahlul] I believe no one must be allowed to force the government not to explore the means and methods that might benefit Sudan in foreign relations. As I said, we view things realistically and from the perspective of the interest that can be served. The first decision we made regarding regional groupings is to join the agreement of the customs union for eastern, central, and southern Africa because there are common interests between us and those countries. I believe this step constitutes a message to the brothers in the SPLM which implies that we do not act on racial, linguistic, or cultural grounds but on the basis of our interests.

[Muhammad] Has the issue of bilateral agreements with Egypt and Libya been discussed by the Council of Ministers?

[Sahlul] What agreements?

[Muhammad] The joint defense pact with Egypt and the military protocol with Libya?

[Sahlul] The circumstance was not right to raise this subject. The joint defense pact was part of the integration process and discussion of the integration process is out of the question in the current circumstances. Regarding the protocol with Libya, naturally this was in the past and such protocols usually have a limited duration. I believe the protocol has expired now and any new dealings existing now between us and those two states are based on new contracts and ties. We did not

sign any special agreement with any state recently so I do not really know why there is such a fuss about this subject. [passage omitted]

[Muhammad] There is a dormant issue—the conflict with Kenya over the Alimi Triangle [name as published]. Have the two countries discussed this issue?

[Sahlul] The subject as you said is dormant. It is an old subject and dates back to the time of the British rule in Sudan. That triangle was administered by the government in Nairobi in exchange for fees paid by the Sudanese Government for that service. The region was allegedly inaccessible from Sudan but easy to reach from Kenya. This was the conclusion that the British administration in both countries drew. Following independence, people did not pay attention to this problem and the Sudanese Government continued to pay fees for the Kenyan Government. When the time to hand over that triangle approached, the Kenyan Government began to publish maps showing that region as Kenyan territory. Later, maps that included another region of 10,000 square km in area began to appear. With the Alimi Triangle being around 6,000 square km in area, the added area became approximately 16,000 square km without any justification. When we asked the Kenyan Government to discuss this matter with us, hostile statements began to emerge from Nairobi and our then charge d'affaires had to hold a news conference to present the facts. This resulted in the charge d'affaires being expelled; the Sudanese Government retaliated and things developed from there. When the salvation revolution came, we said, let us begin by creating a suitable atmosphere and then we can discuss the subject quietly and away from the limelight.

[Muhammad] It is known that the United States has not explicitly recognized the new regime in Sudan. During his visit, Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, said he will discuss this with his administration. Is there any development in this regard?

[Sahlul] I do not think recognition is necessary; the regime came as a change in the government. I remember that one of the Western ambassadors told me that his country recognizes states only, that government changes concern only the people of the country where the changes take place, and that his country deals with any government in power.

This was his view, and I think that this is the general attitude in such issues. Currently we are dealing with world nations as a state and a government.

[Muhammad] I asked the question because the nonrecognition might affect certain things such as economic assistance.

[Sahlul] I do not expect that the future relations between the two countries will be built on the basis of an explicit recognition. This is not what we understood from the assistant secretary of state during his recent visit. He sought to know certain things so as to form a clear picture, and I think he was satisfied with the explanations given to him. He said he came out with a positive impression about the situation and that this government is serious with regard to internal issues and the development of its foreign relations on the bases of mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. This is what concerns them. He said he would convey that to the U.S. Administration. So far, there has been no negative implications whether at the political or the economic levels.

[Muhammad] Your relations with the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, are somewhat lukewarm and cautious. Do you agree?

[Sahlul] There is no lukewarmness or caution; there are normal political relations. The evidence is that last year, when I was Foreign Ministry secretary, I visited Prague and Berlin at the invitation of the two governments there. I held talks and signed agreements, and the visits were successful. This was a reflection of the nature of our relations. But what characterizes relations as strong, sometimes, are clear dealings especially in the economic field. As you know, most socialist countries are now going through a process of change, and perhaps these are not the appropriate circumstances for economic cooperation as the case was in the past.

[Muhammad] In your relations with Ethiopia, the question of your support for some factions of the Eritrean revolution has repeatedly been raised. How true is this under the current circumstances?

[Sahlul] We do not provide assistance to any of those factions. There were efforts to assemble these factions so that they could talk with the Ethiopian Government in a common tongue and the two sides can reach solution within the framework of united Ethiopia. A serious dialogue between these factions and the Ethiopian Government has now started, and the efforts may succeed.

[Muhammad] What do you think of the reports about Ethiopian support for the SPLM?

[Sahlul] A dialogue at the level of presidents took place, and there was an agreement that the problems of the Horn of Africa must all be solved so that there can be stability in the region. The Ethiopians have promised to provide all possible assistance so that we and the SPLM can reach a solution that guarantees the safety and unity of the Sudanese territories. As regards their support for the SPLM, this happened in the past under the pretext that Sudan supported the Eritrean factions. But I think that when they realize the truth, there will be no excuse for them to use the rebellion in Sudan as an element of pressure in the relations between the two countries.

[Muhammad] What about Sudanese-Chadian relations?

[Sahlul] I think our relations with Chad have reached the normal level. There is trust that the new government in Sudan neither has any evil designs on Chad nor agrees to any aspect of interference in the internal affairs of

others. Therefore, mutual confidence has become firmer, and the Chadian president's visit to Sudan confirmed this new attitude. [passage omitted]

Official Meets Egyptian Military Attache

EA0310134189 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Khartoum, 3rd October—State minister at the Ministry of Defence, Maj-Gen (Rtd) 'Uthman Muhammad al-Hasan, had met here yesterday with the Egyptian military attache. The encounter, which came within his meetings with ambassadors, discused bilateral relations and ways of their promotion in addition to training the Sudanese Armed Forces units in Egypt.

Protest to Zimbabwe Over John Garang Visit

EA0410141189 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Sudan has presented a strongly worded protest to the Zimbabwean Government, through its embassy in Zimbabwe, at the abnormal reception accorded to Colonel John Garang during his visit to Zimbabwe last week.

The SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY stated that the Sudanese ambassador in Harare had explained the true situation to the Zimbabwean Government and the Zimbabwean press and explained the efforts which the government had been making for peace.

He pointed out that a national dialogue was currently taking place with the participation of all Sudan's sons, with sincerity and openness. He stressed that the government at all levels had invited Col John Garang to participate in the dialogue currently taking place in Khartoum.

Radio SPLA Reports Garang Visit to Zambia

EA0310094289 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpts] The commander in chief of the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] and chairman of the SPLM-SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army] Political-Military High Command, Comrade John Garang de Mabior, arrived in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, on Thursday, 28 September on the second leg of his current tour of southern Africa.

He was received at the Lusaka International Airport by the minister of defense and security [as heard], the chairman of the committee for political ideology and legal affairs, and the Zambian foreign minister. The SPLM-SPLA leader and his delegation was driven, in a motocade, to the reception hall [words indistinct] to the State House, where he was received by the president of the Republic of Zambia, Dr Kenneth David Kaunda.

On the 2d day, Friday, 29 September 1989, the SPLM-SPLA leader and his wife, Rebecca, were taken to the National Assembly at the international Conference Center in Mulungushi, where the UNIP [United National Independence Party] had gathered for its national congress. The SPLM-SPLA leader and his wife, Rebecca, and President Kaunda, were taken to Mulungushi in a motorcade. At Mulungushi they were met by the party secretary general, the vice president of the Republic of Zambia, the prime minister, and senior Army and police officers and government officials. President Kaunda introduced the SPLM-SPLA leader to the members of the council after the gathering and sung the republican and national anthems conducted by President Kaunda. In his address to introduce the SPLM-SPLA leader, Dr Kaunda described the Sudanese struggling masses as being a people with a home, but no home. He added that the case in the Sudan is that of rejection of some people by others.

Comrade Dr Kenneth Kaunda said that he received the SPLM-SPLA leader, because Dr John Garang does not call for division of the Sudan. We love you because of the principles you hold, said Dr Kaunda, who described Dr John Garang as a great African leader and African son. The SPLM-SPLA leader, Comrade Dr John Garang de Mabior, was then given a standing ovation by the members of the congress, including President Kaunda and his entire Cabinet, as he was invited by President Kaunda to address the national congress of the UNIP.

Dr John Garang then addressed the 750-member national council meeting. In his speech that lasted for about 1 and ½ hours, the SPLM-SPLA leader began by singing the slogans of: one Zambia, one nation, one Africa, one revolution, one world, one revolution, which were earlier sung by President Kaunda in the beginning of his opening speech. Comrade Dr John Garang de Mabior praised the leadership of Zambia for its pragmatic, humane, and patient policies that have been able to unite the people of Zambia to live together in tranquility as people of one nation.

He described President Kaunda as not only the leader of Zambia, but as a father and elder statesman of Africa. He informed the general conference of the UNIP that the basic problem in the Sudan is that of injustice where nationality and religion are used by the minority cliques as a basis for getting into power, getting rich and supressing others, thereby exacerbating the economic, political and social problems of a neocolonial state.

He again described the September 1983 Shari'ah laws as inhuman, primitive, and barbaric laws that no peace-loving people the world over can condone under any circumstances.

At this juncture, the SPLM-SPLA leader told the people of Zambia that the SPLM-SPLA for years has been fighting and is still fighting to create a new united democratic Sudan where human dignity is respected. He

stressed the movement's objectives to evolve a philosophy that brings the Sudanese people together irrespective of their local differences. The SPLM-SPLA leader said the cardinal objective of the SPLM-SPLA is to create a Sudanese identity, a Sudanese commonalty to which we all pay undivided allegiance, irrespective of race, tribe, religion, or any other localism.

Describing the new military rulers in Khartoum as junior rebels to the SPLA, the SPLA leader said the military council of Brigadier 'Umar al-Bashir stands for separation of the south, while the SPLM-SPLA stands for unity of the Sudan. Comrade Dr John said this is the first situation where guerrillas stand for national unity, while the government in the national capital stands for separation. In this regard, the SPLM-SPLA asked the people of the Republic of Zambia to remember their brothers and sisters in the sudan in their deliberations, and in their prayers so that peace returns to the Sudan. [passage omitted]

The address was interrupted by loud applause and clapping from the members of the congress. The SPLM-SPLA leader concluded his speech by thanking his excellency the president of the Republic of Zambia, Comrade Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, members of the UNIP and the entire people of Zambia for the warm reception they accorded him and his delegation.

Later on, the president of the Republic of Zambia, Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, in his closing speech, expressed his hope, and that of the people of Zambia, in general, that the day will soon come when the SPLM-SPLA philosophy of creating a united democratic new Sudan of human dignity, justice and equality for all, where every citizen will pay undivided allegiance to one nation is a reality.

He stressed Zambia's readiness in assisting the people of Sudan to reach a peaceful solution to their fundamental problems. We are not behind you, but we are with you, concluded Comrade Dr Kenneth Kaunda. The two leaders then drove back in a motorcade to the State House where Comrade Dr John Garang is staying with his wife.

In another development, the SPLM-SPLA chairman and commander in chief gave a lengthy interview to Zambian National Broadcasting Corporation, TV and press, yesterday, Sunday, 1 October 1989. The details of the interview will be broadcast as soon as they are made available.

Kuwait

Minister on Aircraft Purchase, Iraqi Ties

PM0410152589 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Oct 89 pp 1, 2

[Hisham al-Diwan report: "Kuwaiti Defense Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Purchase of Mirage-2000 Under Study Among Other Options"]

[Text] Kuwait—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir has stated that the question of Kuwait's purchasing Mirage-2000 aircraft from France is currently under study, among several other options and issues, as part of a review of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces' arms requirements.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the Kuwaiti defense minister also said: Kuwait does not follow fixed criteria in the choice of arms for its forces, nor has it any significant difficulty in getting what it needs, based on its own requirements and choices.

Kuwait's arms purchases, he said, are not linked to any particular side, because it deals with both East and West. He added that selecting any particular type of arms has nothing to do with the situation anywhere but rather depends on the growth and development of our armed forces and what is needed under their plans—which is quite normal and is the same procedure as in every other country.

He said that Kuwait has new offers of various types of weapons from various sources and that it studies them as they come, according to public interest requirements.

The Kuwait defense minister said further that the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] defense ministers will meet in November in Riyadh and discuss a number of issues. The meeting, he added, will be a new opportunity to continue the process of defense cooperation among member states with positive results that would enhance cooperation and solidarity among the states of the region after the elimination of past traditional difficulties.

On the results of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah's visit to Iraq and his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, he said that the results had been recorded and would emerge gradually.

He added: We in Kuwait have supported Iraq and endured what we have endured out of conviction that what is right always prevails and that the region could not possibly live under the shadow of guns and threats. We ask no price for our stand. Suffice it to say that the meeting between the Amir of Kuwait and the Iraqi president surpassed all protocols and eliminated everything that is contrary to the mutual and pan-Arab interests that guide the attitude of both countries to almost all issues.

He also said: The security and fate of both countries are one and the same, and their quest for peace and stability not only in the Arab Gulf region but everywhere else is clear and well known: It is no secret. The two countries' support and aid for the Palestinian people and their cause have never stopped either.

Saudi Arabia

Iran Accused of Israel Link, Drug Production

PM0410140189 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 1

[Khalid 'Ali al-Matrafi report: "Terrorist Cooperation Between Iran and Israel"]

[Text] Well-informed sources from the Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization have revealed serious information about the terrorist acts of the ruling regime in Tehran.

The sources told AL-MADINAH that the Iranian Government has for several years been seeking to recruit so-called "Hezbollah" in order to become an effective organ among its intelligence organs. And to achieve that objective it relies on the experts of the Israeli intelligence organ (Mosad).

The sources indicated that more than 16 people are receiving training courses in the Zionist entity, and that a complete organ comprising nearly 450 people is affiliated to Hezbollah and trained in hijacking aircraft, carrying out assassinations, and kidnapping hostages. The sources also disclosed that the party cells which Iran's rulers are trying to reactivate are nothing but an initial cover and a preliminary step toward implementing that scheme.

Meanwhile, the sources said that more than 1,500 donums of land are being cultivated with drug-yeilding plants and are supervised by the government in Iran with the aim of exporting them. The sources also said that the latest smuggling operation was into Turkey, and facilities were provided for it. It comprised 6 kg of Iranian-grown heroin, but the Turkish authorities were able to foil the operation and arrest the gang.

Iranian Complaints About Bombing Trial Derided

PM0510102789 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 30 Sep 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Iran...: The Contradictions"]

[Text] In light of its tendentious media campaigns, whose aim is to detract from the justice of heaven and defame the rules of the Islamic Shari'ah, it is not strange or new for Iran to try to confuse truth and falsehood and to continue its transgression with a view to defaming the Islamic judiciary's impartiality and fairness.

And we here in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and in the Islamic world as a whole, expect nothing from a regime

based on terrorism but continued defense of terrorism and persistence in disgraceful positions with respect to the justice of Islam.

Iran, which pushed its innocent children into the firing line during the war without taking any account of the repercussions and without any consideration or sympathy for elderly mothers, is the same Iran which pushed and incited the culprits to shed the blood of reverent worshippers and spread fear in the holy land.

Iran, which had in the past condemned all the criminal acts and urged the Saudi authorities to bring the culprits to justice and had urged the Islamic judiciary to sentence them to capital punishment, is the same Iran of contradictions which—since Interior Ministry officials in this country announced the bombings which occurred in Mecca during the 1988 pilgrimage—has been weeping for the murderers and their crimes when confronted with the Saudi Government's impartiality and the Islamic judiciary's fairness.

It is the same Iran which in the past sent explosives as "terrorist gifts" in order to undermine security in the country of security and to plant fear in a country about which God said in the glorious Koran: "Let them adore the Lord of this House, who provides them with food against hunger and with security against fear (of danger)."

We are not surprised that such "conflicting attitudes" are emanating from the clique of "Tehran mullahs," who want to "extinguish God's light with their mouths." [Koranic verse]

This is so because Iran's record is one of crazy and bloody tragedies, of unrest, arson, and conspiracies against Muslims with a view to turning them away from the holy place.

We tell the Tehran mullahs that the pilgrimage seasons and the ceremonies of the holy place can no longer tolerate the farces of terrorist behavior.

And these conspirators must understand that full well, fear God, and reexamine their spiteful records against the Islamic nation.

Yemen Arab Republic

Al-Iryani Meets Ministers at UN Assembly

JN0410191889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, met last night on the sidelines of the 44th UN General Assembly session in New York with Qatari Foreign Minister Khalid Ibn-'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, Somali Foreign Minister Adurahmane Jama Barre, and Romanian Foreign Minister Ioan Totu.

During the meetings, they discussed bilateral relations, topics on the agenda of the UN General Assembly, and coordination on these issues.

PDRY Labor Minister Arrives in Sanaa for Talks

JN0410190489 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Brother 'Uthman 'Abd-al-Jabir Rashid, minister of labor and civil service and head of the Central Statistical Board in the southern part of our homeland, arrived in Sanaa today on a visit during which he will meet with the brothers in the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

In a statement to the SABA' news agency, the minister said that these meetings will cover several issues concerning coordination between the Ministry of Labor and Civil Service in the southern part and our Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The meetings will also deal with labor, employment, professional safety, social security, and other social issues.

He was received by Brother Ahmad Muhammad Luqman, minister of labor and social affairs and Standing Committee member.

Foreign Minister's Activities at UN Reported

Meets Secretary General

JN0510104289 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met at UN headquarters last night with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The INA correspondent in New York said the meeting lasted 30 minutes.

Addresses General Assembly

JN0510171089 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] New York, Oct 5, INA—Iraq has warned the international community against Iran's insistence on its selective approach in dealing with UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Addressing the UN General Assembly today, Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said that Iraq could not accept any partial measures or plans to serve the Iranian scheme of perpetuating the state of no war and no peace.

Mr. Aziz added that this warning was shared by all the countries of the region in view of the negative impact which this situation brings to the security and stability of the region.

The Iraqi foreign minister expressed regret that last year which saw several meetings between Iraq and Iran under the auspices of the UN secretary general did not witness the genuine direct talks which would achieve the objective envisaged in Resolution 598 and the agreement of the 8th of August, 1988; namely, the establishment of comprehensive and lasting peace between Iraq and Iran and in the Arab Gulf region as a whole.

Mr. 'Aziz went on saying that the Iranian side had resorted to turning the said meetings into an arena for polemics and propaganda and insisted on its well-known selective approach, stressing the aspects in which it saw its own interests while showing no real willingness for a serious discussion of the other issues which would ensure a balance in the common interests of the two parties.

He demonstrated suspicion over this approach, which is aimed at achieving Iranian gains while perpetuating a no-peace-no-war situation for which no end appears to be in sight and hence failing to establish comprehensive lasting peace.

The Iraqi foreign minister said that Iraq had taken care throughout this past year to give Iran ample opportunities in order to encourage it to take the road to peace. He added that Iraq took the initiative in releasing the sick and wounded prisoners of war and announcing readiness to conduct an immediate and comprehensive exchange of POWs in accordance with the Geneva conventions.

He added that Iraq also demobilized more than 200,000 men from our armed forces between the 18th of October 1988 and the 30th of June 1989, stopped enlistment in the People's Army and disbanded a whole army corps of land forces and, only a few days ago, decided to disband five other divisions of land forces.

On the level of reconstruction and development, Iraq reconstructed and re-built the two valiant cities of Basra and al-Faw despite the fact that they remain within the range of Iranian guns and artillery, Mr. 'Aziz said.

The Iraqi foreign minister added that the UN had attached great importance to the war which Iran launched and persisted in waging against Iraq for eight years. He pointed that the General Assembly and the Security Council had adopted many resolutions calling for an end to the war and for the dispute to be resolved on the basis of the UN Charter and international law; resolutions which were accepted by Iraq but rejected by Iran.

The last of these was Resolution 598 which was accepted by Iraq immediately after its adoption, but which Iran refused to comply with for a whole year until it was forced to accept it under circumstances well known to the international community, Mr. 'Aziz said.

He went on saying that it was under the auspices of the UN secretary general that the agreement of August 8, 1988, was reached to provide the basis for the ceasefire which came into effect on August 20, 1988, and which laid dawn the mechanism for reaching a common understanding of the provisions of Resolution 598 and of the procedures and timings for their implementation through direct talks to be conducted between the two parties under the auspices of the UN secretary general.

Mr. 'Aziz remarked that Iraq was, and still is, desirous to establish in good faith comprehensive and durable peace with Iran on the basis of Security Council Resolution 598.

He reaffirmed Iraq's same respect which it demonstrated beyond any doubt, throughout the years of the conflict, for the principles and bases upon which the UN was founded; namely, peace, respect for the sovereignty and independence of peoples, the rejection of the policies of hegemony and interference in the internal affairs of others, and respect for the territorial integrity of states along with their legitimate rights which are based on the rules and precedents of international law

The Iraqi foreign minister said that the step required now, after more than a year of inaction for which Iran bears full responsibility, is to go back to the table of direct negotiations under the auspices of the secretary-general in accordance with the 8th of August agreement, and to work sincerely on the implementation of Resolution 598 as a comprehensive peace plan ensuring security, stability and good neighbourliness between the two countries and in the region on a permanent basis, under the auspices of the United Nations and with UN guarantees.

Concerning the POW's affair, Mr. 'Aziz stated that Iran's selective attitudes, along with its resorting to manoeuverings and extortionist tactics, had prolonged the suffering of more than one hundered thousand Iraqi and Iranian prisoners of war and increased the pains of their families who found hope in the ceasefire.

He said paragraph 3 of Resolution 598, which cites Article 118 of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, obligates the two sides in an unequivocal manner to release the POW's without delay immediately after the cessation of active hostilities. However, Iran refuses to begin implementing this obligation, claiming that active hostilities have not ceased as yet, Mr 'Aziz remarked.

Mr. 'Aziz added that this constituted a dangerous precedent which had never been witnessed throughout the history of the UN and the history preceding its establishment. The Iranian stand, which refuses to release the POW'S after the ceasefire, is contrary to the legal and realistic definition of the cessation of active hostilities confirmed by the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] in its note of March 31th, 1989, addressed to both Iraq and Iran, in particular paragraph 2 of that note, he said.

This Iranian stand is concrete evidence of bad intent, of disrespect for the rules of international law and disregard for the values prevailing in the international community, Mr. 'Aziz pointed.

He called upon the UN to shoulder its legal humanitarian responsibility and address this tragedy by bringing Iran to respect humanitarian international law and renounce the policy of holding people hostage for political ends, a policy which Iran is well-known to have been practising systematically.

Iraq welcomes the attention recently given by the Security Council to this issue and hopes that the council's concern will bring Iran to comply with the provisions of international law and respond to Iraq's, and the ICRC's, appeal for an immediate release of all POW's and an end to their bitter suffering, Mr. 'Aziz said.

The Iraqi foreign minister went on saying that the Israeli occupation of the land of Palestine continues to date, in contravention of the will of the international community. The Israeli forces of occupation continue to launch one military campaign after another using violence and terrorism against the valiant popular Palestinian intifadah which is about to enter its third year, he said.

Mr. 'Aziz said the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly during its Geneva meeting in January 1988 on the Palestinian question reaffirms the fact that the majority of the countries of the world stand today by the firm rights of Palestinian people.

He pointed that the Palestine Liberation Organization has taken a number of courageous steps to reaffirm its resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly.

Mr. 'Aziz considered the continuation of the Israeli occupation, the refusal to accept the shining and certain fact that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the denial of the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and to establishing its own independent state with al-Quds [Jerusalem] as its capital, a threat to security and peace in the region and in the world at large.

He said those who insist on occupation and deny the Palestine Liberation Organization its role in representing its people are simply expressing an attitude which is aggressive, reactionary, contrary to the values upon which this organization and our contemporary international life are based.

Mr. 'Aziz added that it is these people themselves who are first responsible for the pains suffered by the people of our region and for the state of instability, tension and terror persisting therein. The whole world is aware of the aggressive and expansionist nature of the Zionist regime, and of its policies of invasion, occupation and aggression against the Arab people of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab states, as was demonstrated by its flagrant aggression against Iraq in June 1981.

He stressed that the Zionist regime is trying to be the biggest military power in the region. It possesses nuclear and chemical weapons, long-range missiles, and all sorts of other destructive weaponry in order to terrorize all countries in the region and perpetuate its occupation of the Arab land of Palestine.

The Iraqi foreign minister said that the whole world is also well-aware of the grave Zionist violations of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories which are now documented in sound and picture in the daily news reports as well as in the official reports of the United Nations and many other international and regional organizations. Responsibility dictates that the members of the United Nations, particularly the members of the Security Council, should implement the provisions of the UN Charter applicable in such situations to deter the forces of occupation from perpetrating these crimes and bring to an end the Israeli occupation and aggression.

He held the United States to be greatly responsible for the continuation of the policy of occupation, arrogance and terrorism pursued by the Zionist regime, for it is the United States which continues to supply this regime with arms and political cover.

The United States is called upon to change this policy which it has followed for several decades now and to deal with the free will of the Palestinian people and the Palestine Liberation Organization, its sole and legitimate representative, to recognize without reservations and manoeuverings, the rights of the Arab people of Palestine to the establishment of their independent state and to shoulder its responsibilities by exercising pressure on the occupiers in order to bring them to compliance

and to ensure the just and legitimate rights of Arab people of Palestine, Mr. 'Aziz said.

The Iraqi foreign minister went on saying that Iraq had always stood by the right of peoples to self-determination and extended material and moral support for the achievement of this objective. "Today, we are about to witness the declaration of Namibia's independence in accordance with the UN plan for the independence of Namibia which was initiated last April on the basis of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) and 640 (1989)," he said.

Referring to the Lebanese crisis, Mr. 'Aziz said the tragedy sufferred by the Lebanese people is entering now its fourteenth year amidst further distruction, killing and sabotage resulting from the continuation of occupation and external interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon.

Iraq condemns the Israeli military occupation of Lebanon. Iraq also condemns the Syrian and Iranian occupation of Lebanon, and sees that no solution can be found to the Lebanese crisis but by terminating this occupation, putting an end to external intereference in Lebanese internal affairs and creating the suitable free climate for the Lebanese people to settle their internal problems and achieve national reconciliation through dialogue, we support the efforts exerted by the League of Arab States, represented by the Arab tripartite committee, in order to resolve the Lebanese crisis in accordance with the resolutions of the Casablanca summit, ensure the withdrwal of all non-Lebanese forces, and help the people of Lebanon reach national reconciliation, formulte a new system based on justice and fairness and enable the Lebanese state to exercise its full sovereignty over Lebanon.

"We call upon the secretary-general to take the measures stated in the declaration on Namibia, issued by the ninth summit conference of the movement of Non-aligned countries, with a view to ensuring the rights of the Namibian people to self-determination and national independence," Mr. 'Aziz said.

He said, "Our world is undergoing wide economic changes affecting the course of international economic relations. Scientific and technological developments have deepened the cultural and economic gap between the developing and developed countries. We note with concern the increase in the disparities between the countries of the developing world and those of the developed."

The sharp slump in the prices of basic commodities and raw materials and the fall in crude oil prices have, for years now, been causing huge losses in the revenues of the developing countries and thus causing a grave deterioration in their development programmes and a fall in the standard of living of their peoples, Mr. 'Aziz clarified.

"We agree with the necessity of extending assistance to the developing countries in their efforts to resume the process of restructuring their economies and diversifying their exports in order to ensure sufficient funds with which to continue their development operations," Mr. 'Aziz said.

"Economic cooperation amongst the developing countries acquires topmost importance and offers the only alternative before us. The establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council represents a practical step towards the positive use of regional groupings for achieving the objective of collective self-reliance amongst the countries of those groupings," he said, adding that "we regard economic cooperation between these developing countries and the developed ones as a complementary factor in an interrelated and integrated world in which we all strive for the good of manking as a whole."

The Iraqi foreign minister expressed hope towards entering into a serious dialogue during the special session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1990 which will be devoted to international economic cooperation and to the revitalization of economic growth and development in the developing countries.

He regarded the external debts of the developing countries and the servicing of these debts as one of gravest problems facing all countries in the world, creditor and debtor alike. The sums involved amount now to half the gross national product of the developing countries and thus represent a real obstacle before their continued implementation of their development, economic and social programmes he said.

Mr. 'Aziz emphasised that a reasonable and equitable solution must, therefore, be found to this problem if we are to ensure better relations amongst states and a better life for their peoples.

He said the resolution adopted during the ninth summit conference of the countries of the Non-aligned Movement to convene a conference under the auspices of the United Nations to consider all aspects of the external debt problem, in a manner corresponding to the requirements of development, will perhaps provide a suitable opportunity to reach acceptable solutions to this problem which represents a constant attrition of all economic and human efforts.

Mr. 'Aziz added that the other source of concern for mankind is the continued deterioration in the environment and climate on this planet. While we consider the protection of the environment to be an integral part of the requirements for development, we emphasize the need for this problem to be addressed in a comprehensive multilateral manner covering all its aspects and taking the measures necessary for ensuring an end to all that might contributre to exposing our world to an environmental disaster. Consideration should be given to the development priorities of the developing countries and to the principle of respect for their sovereignty over their natural resources.

Iraq is a firm believer in the role of the United Nations as the indispensible organ in the maintenance of international peace and security and the consolidation of amicable relations amongst states on the basis of equality, mutual respect, the realization of international cooperation in all fields and the strengthening of respect for the basic rights and freedoms of mankind, particularly the right of peoples to self-determination, the Iraqi foreign minister concluded.

King Fahd's Personal Envoy Visits Baghdad

Received by Saddam

JN0510122689 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1120 5 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn this morning received Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi minister of education and personal envoy of his brother Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz—custodian of the two holy mosques and monarch of Saudi Arabia.

Dr al-Khuwaytir arrived in Baghdad earlier this morning.

He was received at the airport by Minister of Education 'Abd al-Qadir 'Izz-al-Din.

Envoy Departs Baghdad 5 Oct

JN0510160489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1435 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, minister of education and personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Fahd Ibn-'Abd al-'Aziz—custodian of the two holy mosques and monarch of Saudi Arabia—left Baghdad today.

He was seen off at the airport by Education Minister 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Izz-al-Din.

RCC Endorses Cooperation Council Agreements

JN0510142689 Baghdad INA in English
1235 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 5, INA—The Revolution Command Council (RCC) has endorsed 12 agreements concluded among the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC): Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and the Yemen Arab Republic.

The agreements were endorsed by the ACC summit held in Sanaa on 25-26th last September.

The agreements covered the four countries' cooperation in fields of illicit use and trafficking of drugs and the four countries' cooperation in the fields of agriculture, economic, commercial marine, transport, railways transport, post and telecommunication, marine navigation and ports, houses and reconstruction, education and higher education, sports and youth, culture and information and organizing the employment and transfer of manpower.

Inner Cabinet Meeting Ends Without Decision

TA0510141689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Inner Cabinet has ended its session without a resolution and will reconvene tomorrow. The Alignment ministers submitted the concluding proposal that was agreed upon yesterday. The Likud has not yet offered its counterproposal. Our political correspondent Natan Gutman reports from the Prime Minister's Office:

The Inner Cabinet will reconvene at 1000 tomorrow to continue its discussion of President Mubarak's proposals for the promotion of the peace process in the Middle East. There were no resolutions following today's session, which lasted nearly 6 hours. Eight ministers took the floor, and another four expressed their wish to present their positions. They are scheduled to do that tomorrow.

The Alignment submitted its draft resolution, which was formulated yesterday during the Alignment ministers' session. It urges welcoming the Mubarak initiative. The Likud has not submitted its own proposal. Minister Moda'i expressed his assessment that the Alignment may withdraw its draft resolution tomorrow. At any rate, at this stage the Likud has no intention of submitting its own draft resolution to the Inner Cabinet.

The main discussion focused on Minister Arens' proposal. He raised the so-called Baker proposal for a tripartite Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. meeting to decide on the composition of the Palestinian delegation for the negotiations. Minister Ari'el Sharon demanded that the Baker-Arens proposal be submitted in writing for perusal. Minister Arens responded: He [not further identified] told me that three times. Ministers Peres and Shahal suggested that Minister Arens bring the minutes of his talks with Baker to tomorrow's meeting. This was accepted. This, in fact, was the main topic on today's agenda.

The Alignment, which will meet later for consultations, is not rejecting out of hand the notion of the tripartite meeting in Cairo. Let us tell you a little anecdote from today's proceedings: Minister Shahal brought a cassette to the Inner Cabinet session with a 1976 recording of Minister Sharon in which he says that it is imperative to hold talks with the PLO, otherwise a cloud will continue to hang over the Middle East. Let us emphasize that one minister told us that he believes the ministers who support the braces want to sabotage the initiative at all costs, even though the ministers affiliated with the Shamir-Arens camp, as well as the Alignment ministers, are prepared to go for a compromise.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 5 October adds that "the prime minister did not raise his draft resolution," and that "some ministers criticized the ambiguity of the U.S. proposal on tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian consultations on the composition of the Palestinian delegation, as it was transmitted by Foreign Minister Arens." Reporting on the recording of Minister Sharon which Minister Shahal presented, in which Sharon advocates talking to "all the Arabs, including the PLO," Jerusalem Domestic says that "Minister Sharon responded by saying: I was wrong."]

These are the initial details from the Inner Cabinet session which ended a short while ago. We will continue to update you later.

Rabin, Peres, Levi Comment

TA0510172189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Inner Cabinet decision has been deferred until tomorrow. The current proposal favors accepting tripartite Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. consultations on the composition of the Palestinian delegation. If the Likud rejects the Alignment's proposal to the Inner Cabinet, it will mean that it does not want Egypt as a partner in the process, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening at the meeting of the Labor Party's political council. Our party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel reports that according to Rabin, the Alignment made efforts to establish the broadest common ground with the Likud. The defense minister said it would be advisable to wait a day or two to find out whether there is a U.S. proposal, because if so, that would turn the United States into the main political player.

Meanwhile, the Likud has not made its own counterproposal. The prime minister supports Foreign Minister Arens' suggestion that the Baker plan be adopted as a compromise solution. The braces ministers object to this.

Here are Ministers Shim'on Peres and David Levi:

[Begin recording] [Peres] We are suggesting that these two proposals be accepted because we believe they fall within the parameters of the Israeli Cabinet's 14 May peace initiative; in fact, implementing this initiative would be the first step.

[Levi] The Alignment submitted a draft resolution that supports the Egyptian initiative. If the Egyptian initiative, with everything that it includes, is supported, it means withdrawal from the Israeli initiative, which has always advocated saying no to the PLO, no to a Palestinian state, and no to the 10 points. [end recording]

Peres Says Baker Proposal 'Almost Too Good'

TA0610064689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that if no alternative proposal is submitted, the Alignment will demand that the Inner Cabinet vote today for the Alignment proposal. This proposal states that Israel accepts Egypt's call for an Israeli-Palestinian meeting to promote the materialization of its peace initiative as endorsed by a government resolution.

Minister Peres said this morning that if the U.S. proposal is raised in written form, the Alignment will agree to discuss it. Mr Peres was referring to a proposal relayed by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in a telephone conversation with his counterpart, Moshe Arens, whereby Israel, Egypt, and the United States would agree on the composition of a Palestinian representation. Minister Peres said that the U.S. proposal looks almost too good to be true—as if the United States changed its stand overnight. Furthermore, since the proposal states that the Palestinian representation will be composed uniquely for an encounter to discuss the election modalities, there is no chance Egypt will accept it, said Peres.

Minister Peres was astonished that Minister Arens did not immediately request his colleague Baker to provide the proposal in writing in order to submit it to the Cabinet. [passage omitted]

Likud Ministers United Against Labor Proposal

TA0610091089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0822 GMT 6 Oct 89

["Special news flash" by political affairs correspondent Ze'ev Kohen]

[Text] The Inner Cabinet is now meeting in the Prime Minister's Bureau in Jerusalem, where it will formulate a stance on the political initiative.

Earlier, the so-called braces ministers met to crystallize their stand. After the meeting, I spoke with Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who said the following:

[Begin recording] [Moda'i] We will oppose the proposal which, although in a new guise this time, is in substance similar to former ones in that it states that the PLO will compose the delegation to talks with us regarding the Israeli initiative. We will categorically oppose anything that is to be set up by the PLO, and right now every solution, in both the Egyptian and American formulation, is a delegation of PLO people.

[Kohen] There is the U.S. proposal calling for a tripartite consultation by Israel, the United States, and Egypt, to decide on the composition of the Palestinian delegation. Is this...

[Moda'i, interrupting] Even a child understands that the Palestinian delegation will be composed by the PLO, if this has not been done already. What, then, is there to disucss? to be forced to give in to American pressure? There was that senior U.S. official who said: Israel is like a small child who ought to be given its medicine by force, because it is for its own good, meaning that the Inner Cabinet must now make a decision. Then what? We will discuss the matter of the delegation with the United States, who will say: What, we cannot influence you even on this? Can we not influence you to agree on the delegation's composition?

[Kohen] Minister Moda'i, the braces ministers will be in a minority in the Inner Cabinet, will they not?

[Moda'i] No, no, that is not true. All the Likud representatives are at the moment united in their desire to categorically reject the Alignment's proposal. Right now this is the issue on the agenda. There is nothing else on the agenda.

[Kohen] Minister Moda'i, thank you very much. [end recording]

Inner Cabinet Rejects Alignment Proposal

TA0610114489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem]

[Text] [Golan] The Inner Cabinet has rejected the Alignment proposal to accept President Mubarak's call to launch talks in Cairo to set up a Palestinian delegation for negotiations with Israel to prepare elections in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. The Alignment put the proposal up for a vote which resulted in a tie. All the Likud ministers voted against the proposal, while all the Alignment ministers voted in favor. With the tie, the Alignment proposal was defeated.

The Inner Cabinet meeting ended only 3 minutes ago. Here in our broadcasting van we have Deputy Prime Minister David Levi. It must be a happy day for you, with the Alignment proposal defeated by the tie vote in the Inner Cabinet.

[Levi] There is no talk of being either happy or unhappy. We should rather talk about being serious and consistent, and of the stand which the Likud adopted, was loyal to, and in accordance with which it voted. The Alignment's proposal, with all the accompanying hairsplitting and attempts to present it as an addendum to the government peace initiative, stood in contradiction to the initiative as endorsed by the government. The prime minister himself described it perfectly by saying that by embracing their proposal we would have recognized the PLO, since all the signs, declarations, and facts we have show that Egypt is coordinating the composition of the delegation with the PLO. By accepting that proposal, Israel would have embarked on a dangerous path of no return. We stated this stand at the outset, and we remained faithful to it.

[Golan] What will happen now, sir? The Mubarak initiative has been rejected. Will you, the braces ministers as well as the other Likud ministers, be ready to discuss U.S. Secretary of State Baker's proposal for a tripartite Israeli-U.S.-Egyptian agreement on the Palestinian delegation's composition?

[Levi] No one knows what the Baker proposal is, or whether it exists. What is clear from all the declarations made in recent hours is that we have not been presented with

any concrete proposal. The U.S. secretary of state, when asked, said he also must consult with the Egyptians. Therefore, nothing of this has been presented to us as a definite, crystallized proposal. What we did have was the Alignment's proposal embracing the Egyptian initiative. It fell through in the vote.

[Golan] How did the Alignment ministers react?

[Levi] Naturally, when the decision was made, and prior to the vote, the prime minister announced that if the proposal is defeated in the voting, the government will have only one policy: the Israeli initiative, with everyone bound by it. No one will be able to act against it, that is, make other efforts; nor will anyone speak in favor of any other initiative.

Peres Reviews Next Move

TA0610122789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and finance minister, by moderator Me'ir Einstein and political correspondent Arye Golan in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] [Einstein] Good day, Mr Peres.
[Peres] Shalom.

[Einstein] What now? What does the Alignment intend to do?
[Peres] A new political reality has been created. We will convene our institutions and decide on our future path.

[Einstein] Will you recommend that the government be dissolved?
[Peres] I do now know whether I will propose the dissolution of the government or some other step. What is clear is that the developments demand that we draw the appropriate conclusions.

[Einstein] Mr Peres, when you raised the Alignment proposal at today's Inner Cabinet meeting, the outcome was obvious to you in advance. Why did you do it?
[Peres] If the results are known in advance, that means that there is no readiness to create a partner for the peace process. What use is waiting? I also remember the so-called Jordanian option, the London agreement, which was torpedoed or shattered—call it what you will. I also recall other things, such as the Tabah issue and the withdrawal from Lebanon; I remember who voted in favor and against the Camp David accords, too.

[Einstein] In your opinion, then, the government in its present composition is incapable of promoting the peace process?
[Peres] In my opinion, today the government decided not to promote the Egyptian initiative, which was created in the framework of the Israeli peace initiative. What did we expect? They proposed an encounter with a Palestinian delegation that would include no PLO members and in which we would have the right to prevent the inclusion of even one PLO member. It was further agreed to hold a meeting to discuss elections, which are the first clause in the Israeli peace initiative.

I also ask the following, because I do not understand: What is the difference between the Baker and the Mubarak initiatives? Baker said it requires approval; Mubarak said it requires consultations. To the outside world, by the way, the Egyptians cannot talk about anything beyond consultations. In either case, Israel has the right to decide whether that composition makes it possible for it to participate or not; Israel retains the right of veto. I will say more than that: Let us imagine that there have been elections without prior discussions. What would we do if those who are elected say that they want to consult with these or other elements? What did those who proposed the elections expect? That there is an alternative Palestinian nation? That another nation can be created by genetic engineering? What is the issue here?

[Einstein] Minister Peres, from the point of view of tactics, were you not hasty in submitting your proposal before Minister Arens' counterproposal had a chance to mature?
[Peres] Had there been a counterproposal, the Likud would have asked to postpone the vote. Don't start talking about haste. We act slowly enough, and if the plan is patience instead of peace, what will we do with that patience? The Likud has not said that it has another proposal, nor did it propose anything. Earlier you referred to the minutes [of the Baker-Arens meeting]. They were nothing of the sort; they were merely notes taken by some American. In any event, if they wanted a serious discussion, they should have brought a written proposal. Had the Likud believed that proposal stood a chance, it would have asked us to wait for it, which they did not. All they wanted was to take off the agenda the only peace initiative there is; that is, the initiative for the implementation of the peace process, the only implementation that is feasible.

[Einstein] There is, however, the government's peace initiative.
[Peres] Yes, but it has to be implemented. I don't understand the kind of questions you ask. How will it materialize? Will it take a miracle to make it happen? To implement it, we need a Palestinian party; we need to sit down with that party and talk. Now, will that Palestinian party have no tongue? Will it be forbidden to say a word? How do we expect things to move? What does it mean when you say: There is the government initiative? Is it some futuristic painting?

[Golan] Minister Peres, I know you will not like the next question, either. What is the Alignment doing at present? Are you disbanding the national unity government?
[Peres] You may feel a need to broadcast news every 15 minutes, but I have no such urge. We will convene our institutions, deliberate carefully, and decide on the right way.

[Golan] Which way are you yourself inclined?

[Peres] I am inclined to ensure that there is a peace process.

[Einstein] When the Alignment joined the unity government, you said you were doing it primarily to promote the peace process.
[Peres] True, true.

[Einstein] Now, however, you see the peace process as stuck at a dead end.
[Peres] True.

[Einstein] Then the conclusion is obvious, is it not?
[Peres] Yes.

[Einstein] Are you leaving the government?
[Peres] No, you said that. I do not know that this is the only possible conclusion.

[Golan] Is there another way, sir?
[Peres] There are a number of ways.

[Golan] Such as?
[Peres] Why should I speak of them now? I am in no hurry.

[Golan] People want to know what is going on in their government.
[Peres] They will wait a few more days. Obviously, today's vote was not a formal vote, but rather one with political implications. All those who raised their hand today knew very well what they were voting for.

[Einstein] Is it possible that Baker's proposal will arrive in written form in a few days?
[Peres] How do you know the Likud will raise it? Is the Likud in favor of Baker's proposal? Are you speaking for it? Look, what is, after all, the difference between the Baker and Mubarak proposals? I do not understand anything. The difference is that Baker said that the three countries will decide things, while Mubarak said the three countries will hold consultations. It is inconceivable, if we speak seriously, that the Egyptians would agree to admit in public and in broad daylight that three countries—Egypt, the United States, and Israel—would determine the composition of the Palestinian delegation without letting the Palestinians have any say in this.

[Golan] Perhaps it is easier for the Likud ministers to accept the U.S. initiative on this than an Egyptian initiative.
[Peres] But there is no such initiative. No such initiative exists, so please do not invent it.

[Golan] Do you think it would have been a good thing had one existed?
[Peres] If it had existed, it would have been laid on the government's table today. But in order to have such an initiative, the United States must do three things, all of which are extremely difficult for it to do. First, it must for the first time come up with something that would be called a U.S. initiative. To date the Americans have said: We support the Israeli initiative; or: We support the Egyptian initiative. They have never raised their own initiative. Why should they do so now?

Secondly, how can the Americans—be they even the wiliest wizards—speak on behalf of Egypt and state that a decision made by the three countries will be binding universally? This does not make sense.

Thirdly, if Mr Arens had said, for instance, that the main issue in the meeting would be the election issue, this would have been acceptable. But to state that this meeting will deal exclusively with the modalities of the elections within the framework of the Israeli peace initiative, one can hardly expect this to yield an agreement before the meeting even starts.

[Einstein] Thank you very much, Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and our political correspondent Arye Golan.

Rabin 'Very Disappointed'

TA0610125589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem "immediately after the Inner Cabinet meeting"]

[Text] The question of interest now, of course, is how the Alignment will respond to the rejection of the Alignment proposal. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was disappointed over the failure of the Alignment's proposal to win acceptance in the Inner Cabinet.

[Begin Rabin recording] I am very disappointed. I believe the Egyptian proposal to convene two delegations, a Palestinian and an Israeli, advanced the Israeli Government's peace initiative. The key to the initiative is elections by the inhabitants of the territories to choose a representation among them that will become the authentic leadership—to replace the PLO—with which we will negotiate on the interim period, which according to the peace initiative is linked to the permanent solution. Under our proposal we reserved the right to participate in determining who will and will not be in the Palestinian delegation, thereby neutralizing the charges that it would mean negotiations with the PLO. The moment that control over the composition of the delegation is in Israel's hands or depends on Israel's agreement, that would answer those who ask whom the Palestinian delegation will represent.

The aim is both to discuss the elections with them and to gain acceptance of our guidelines, because there is no point to elections without an agreement on what the elected representation will do and at what stages we will advance toward peace. [end recording]

Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres used similar arguments during the Inner Cabinet session. He told the Likud ministers: If we respond favorably to President Mubarak, we will have more influence over the composition of the Palestinian delegation than over the group

that would otherwise be elected in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. But these arguments did not, as we know, convince the Likud ministers. There was a tie vote on the proposal, which therefore failed.

Immediately after the Inner Cabinet meeting, the six Alignment ministers convened for internal consultations. They were all of the opinion that the prime minister's rejection of the Egyptian proposal for a meeting between the delegations was in fact a rejection of Egypt's goodwill. The Israeli Government's political initiative is therefore in a crisis situation, the Alignment ministers said.

The Likud vote has political repercussions, and we, the Alignment ministers said, will have to deliberate on them in our party forums. According to the Alignment ministers, The Likud ministers' vote showed their true face: Their party is more important to them than peace. In the Alignment ministers' view, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir preferred unity in his party to a historic opportunity for peace, and this is not the first time this has happened. We point out that a date for the convening of Labor Party forums to decide on forthcoming moves has not yet been decided.

Arens Hopes for Written Version of Baker Plan

TA0610133289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said he does not know whether U.S. Secretary of State James Baker will want to send his proposal to Israel after the Alignment's motion was voted down in the Inner Cabinet today. He told our political correspondent Arye Golan that the defeat of the Alignment proposal undoubtedly makes things difficult for Secretary of State Baker right now. Arens added, however, that he still hopes the United States will convey a written proposal for a tripartite Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. agreement on the composition of the Palestinian delegation, which the Inner Cabinet will be able to discuss and thereby repair any damage done.

Foreign Minister Arens said the U.S. proposal is much better from the standpoint of Israel's interests in furthering the peace process. He added that what the Alignment had proposed was actually a meeting with a PLO delegation.

At a news conference following the Inner Cabinet session, Arens said he had no explanation for the Alignment's unwillingness to wait until the U.S. proposal arrived in writing. Speaking to our correspondent David Essing, Arens accused Labor Party ministers of acting out of narrow partisan considerations. He said he had begged them not to put their proposal to a vote, but they had refused.

Rabin Criticizes U.S. 'Passivity'

TA0510174289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said the main question is whether the Likud intends to adhere to the peace initiative and for this purpose to make use of the good services of Egypt and bring about a meeting with the Palestinians. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch reports that Rabin, speaking to the Labor Party's political council, said anyone who rejects this option, for whatever reason, and wants the Palestinians to drop to their knees does not really desire peace.

Minister Rabin also attacked the United States for its passivity. Rabin said he had indeed been told by the foreign minister that Washington has an alternative proposal to President Mubarak's 10-point plan. Rabin claimed, however, that he would be very surprised if the United States would indeed agree to bear some responsibility and, as Rabin put it, get its hands dirty.

Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said the gap between Israel and the Palestinians has never been as small as it is today. He asserted that when former Egyptian President al-Sadat first visited Israel on the occasion of his speech to the Knesset, the positions of both the Egyptians and the Palestinians were far more extreme than they are today.

Peres Discusses Coalition With Agudat Yisra'el

TA0510120989 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Oct 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by political correspondent Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] Vice Premier Shim'on Peres yesterday met with Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members and tried to persuade them to join the Labour Party in a narrow-based coalition.

Avraham Verdiger, Moshe Ze'ev Feldman, Shmu'el Halpert and Eli'ezer Mizrahi were invited to Peres's office following Feldman's resignation Tuesday as deputy labour and social affairs minister, due to the Likud's failure to keep its coalition promises to his party. The fifth Aguda MK [Knesset Member], Menahem Porush, was unable to attend since he was hospitalized.

The Aguda's reply to Peres was negative, at least for the moment, mainly because Verdiger, the party's dominant member in Porush's absence, does not agree with Peres's political views and opposes President Husni Mubarak's 10-point plan. [passage omitted]

Egypt Said To List Palestinians for Talks

TA0510140089 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Oct 89 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] Cairo—Palestinian sources in Cairo have stated that Egypt has drawn up a list of 12 Palestinian figures who would take part in negotiations with Israel.

They also said that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak presented these names to heads of the U.S. Administration during his recent visit to Washington. Egyptian officials have refused to comment on this report.

These sources said that the names of Muhammad Mulhim, former mayor of Halhul, and Akram Haniyah, the deported editor-in-chief of AL-SHA'B, are among these names.

The other Palestinians in the list are: Hanna Sinyurah, Faysal al-Husayni, attorney Jamil al-Tarifi, attorney Ghassan al-Shak'ah, Ilyas Frayj, Fayiz Abu-Rahmah, Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, As'ad al-Saftawi, Mustafa 'Abd-al-Nabi al-Natshah, and Sa'id Kan'an. [passage omitted]

Possible Delegation Members Interviewed

JN0510121689 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1044 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Interview with Fayiz Abu-Rahmah and As'ad al-Saftawi by radio correspondent Hasan Abu-Zayid carried in the "With the Midday Events" program; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-Zayid] Lawyer Fayiz Abu-Rahmah [head of the Gaza Bar Association], your name has been mentioned as one of the figures that will take part in a dialogue with a Palestinian [as heard] delegation in Cairo. What is your comment?

[Abu-Rahmah] These are all press speculations and there is nothing official in them. The future will show who will constitute the delegation, or whether there will be a delegation.

[Abu-Zayid] Fayiz Abu-Rahmah, with whom did you meet while you were in Cairo?

[Abu-Rahmah] The last meeting was held yesterday with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid. We met with a number of officials a few days ago.

[Abu-Zayid] Did you touch on political issues during the meeting?

[Abu-Rahmah] The minister talked about President Mubarak's trip and said that it was one of the most successful trips. He also said the U.S. Administration approved of Egypt's 10 points, and so did a number of countries in the world. He said these proposals are aimed at bolstering and strengthening the peace process and opening a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. The minister added that this would be the first dialogue between the two parties without mediators or side channels. He also said the subject needs continued effort and patience, and that Egypt is exerting all efforts to bolster and engender the success of the peace process.

[Abu-Zayid] As'ad al-Saftawi [headmaster of a Gaza school], your name was mentioned among the figures that will take part in a delegation in the dialogue with an Israeli delegation. Has anyone approached you in this regard?

[Al-Saftawi] It is an honor for me. I feel I am entrusted with a very precious trust and I hope I will live up to my people's expectations in me. However, so far I have not received anything in this regard.

[Abu-Zayid] As'ad al-Saftawi, do you believe that the figures that were mentioned are acceptable to the inhabitants of the territories?

[al-Saftawi] I believe that what is required from the delegation now is no problem for our people. What is required from the delegation now is to discuss the technical arrangements related to holding elections if the PLO approves of this. This is not a difficult thing.

Egypt 'Sensitive' to 'Right of Return' Concerns

TA0610094989 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Oct 89 pp 1, 6

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] Two important developments occurred yesterday in connection with the list of Palestinian representatives to talks with Israel.

Muhammad Basyuni, Egypt's ambassador to Israel, disclosed in a closed meeting yesterday that the only dispute between Israel and Egypt over the composition of the Palestinian delegation is over the proposal to have two Palestinian professors living outside the territories in the delegation.

Basyuni addressed a closed luncheon with representatives of American Jewish organizations in Jerusalem. He said Egypt has already yielded on the inclusion of two deportees from the territories in the delegation.

Basyuni added that Egypt is also no longer requesting that Israel agree to the inclusion of professors who formerly lived in Haifa and Ramla. That is because Egypt is sensitive to Israel's concern that it would raise the right of return controversy.

"We propose including Palestinian lecturers who teach in U.S. universities," Basyuni said.

Basyuni promised: "If agreement is reached on these points, then a summit meeting between the Egyptian president and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir can be arranged within a week."

Our political correspondent has learned that the U.S. Administration transmitted to the prime minister and foreign minister a secret message that there is no truth to reports that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak handed U.S. President George Bush a list of Palestinian representatives.

The message was transmitted to Israel's U.S. Ambassador Moshe Arad prior to the Inner Cabinet meeting via

Under Secretary of State John Kelly. The message said that the administration has not received any list of candidates or Palestinian representatives for talks with Israel.

Some of the names mentioned in the list published in Cairo are not acceptable to the United States. The administration's evaluation is that Palestinian elements who oppose the political process are disseminating the names in order to have a negative influence on the Inner Cabinet's decisionmaking.

Poll: Likud Strength Steady; Labor Slips

TA051011288? Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Oct 89 p 1

[Poll by Hanokh and Rafi Smith; all figures as published]

[Text] If the Knesset elections had been held in late September, support for the Likud would have been similar to what it received about a year ago, while support for the Labor Party would have been 3 percent less than in the November 1988 elections.

These findings were the result of a poll conducted by the Hanokh and Rafi Smith Institute between 21 and 26 September through personal interviews. It encompassed 1,170 men and women, who make up a representative sample of the adult Jewish population (including kibbutzim, moshavim, and the Jewish settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip).

The interviewees were asked: "For which party would you vote if the Knesset elections were held today?" (results in percentages)

	Nov 88 Elections	Mar 89 Poll	Jul 89 Poll	Sep 89 Poll
Likud	34	37	34	33.5
Labor	31.5	27	27	28
SHAS	5	4	none	3
NRP	4.5	4	none	4
Agudat Yisra'el	5	3	12 (a)	4
Degel Hatora	1.5	2	none	1.5
CRM	4	7	6.5	6.5
MAPAM	2	2.5	2.5	2
Center-Shinuy	2	1.5	2.5	2-
Tehiya	3.5	3.5	3.5	5
Tzomet	2	2.5	2	3
Moledet	2	2	2.5	3
Others	2	1-	2	1.5
Undecided	none	3	5	3.5

(a) Figure includes all parties in the religious bloc—SHAS, NRP, Agudat Yisra'el, Degel Hatora.

[Key to abbreviations in the table: SHAS—Torah Observing Sephardim; NRP—National Religious Party; CRM—Citizens Rights Movement; MAPAM—United Workers Party]

The poll shows a slight increase of support for the right-wing bloc—especially for Tehiya, Tzomet, and Moledet—and a slight drop for the left-wing bloc, especially the Labor Party. The religious parties' bloc is approximately maintaining its position.

Government Performance Rated 'Exceptionally Low'

TA061010068? Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Oct 89 p 1

[Poll by Hanokh and Rafi Smith]

[Text] Nearly a year after the last election, only about 25 percent of the Jewish population assesses the government's performance favorably. These are the findings of a public opinion poll conducted between 21 and 26 September, in which approximately 1,170 men and women were interviewed, serving as a representative cross section of the adult Jewish population of Israel (including residents of moshavim, kibbutzim, and Judaea and Samaria).

To the question of whether the government's performance in the following areas was successful or not, we obtained the following responses:

	Percentage of those saying it performed well	
	Mar 89 poll	Sep 89 poll
Handling economic matters	31	21
Handling social matters	25	29
Handling defense issues	38	38
Dealing with foreign affairs	43	46
Your general assessment of the government's performance	30	24

	Percentage of those who answered very good or good	
	Mar 89 poll	Sep 89 poll
Yitzhaq Shamir	56	47
Shim'on Peres	46	36
Moshe Arens	60	52
Yitzhaq Rabin	63	63
Ari'el Sharon	38	36
David Levi	none	30

Compared with the responses given to the same question in the March 1989 poll, we can notice a negative trend in the grading of the government's performance in the economic sphere, as opposed to a slight increase in the appraisal of its handling of social and foreign affairs. As for the question on "your general assessment of the government's functioning," the rating was exceptionally low.

In any case, let it be emphasized that during this period the Israeli public evinced a critical attitude toward the government's performance vis-a-vis previous ratings of former governments. In the poll, the respondents were asked to express their opinion of some of the senior Cabinet members.

The question was: "How do you think the following figures execute their duties?"

Rabin was the only personality to maintain a stable rating. At the same time, it should be noted that these results are not unequivocal: Sharon's negative rating came largely from Alignment-leftist circles and Peres' from Likud supporters, rightist circles, and some religious elements. In their own parties, however, Sharon and Peres enjoy high popularity ratings.

Note: In all the above-mentioned polls, the margin of statistical error stands at approximately 3 percent.

Ministry Issues 1988 Immigration Statistics

TA0610095689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Oct 89 p 16

[Staff report]

[Text] A total of 14,670 immigrants entered Israel since the beginning of the year, a 50 per cent increase over the number registered during the same period last year, the Absorption Ministry reported. Of these, 5,811 were from the Soviet Union, a rise of 271 per cent over last year's figures. In September, the increase was 110 per cent, as compared with September of last year. There were also said to be more immigrants from "lands of distress" which have no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Protests, Curfews, Violence in Territories

Youth Killed in Demonstration

TA0510130189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] An Arab youth was killed in the course of a demonstration in the village of Biddu, north of Ramallah. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a violent demonstration was staged in the village this morning, and that soldiers fired several plastic bullets, injuring the youth, Khalid Abu-'Id. His body was transferred to al-Maqasid Hospital in East Jerusalem, but was later snatched and buried by his family. The army has imposed a curfew on Biddu.

In accordance with the call of the Unified National Command of the Uprising, a general strike is under way in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip.

UNRWA Staffer Found Dead

TA0510133789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] This morning an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol found the charred body of UNRWA [UN Relief and Works Agency] employee (Yusuf Yasin Duwayq), who was abducted from his home yesterday by unidentified individuals. The body was transferred to the Abu Kabir Forensic Institute. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

35 Wounded in Gaza Incidents

TA0510135289 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Oct 89 p 2

[Report by Eytan Rabin and Yitzhar Bar]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Palestinian sources report that 35 people were wounded in yesterday's incidents in the Gaza Strip.

Citizens Rights Movement Knesset Member 'Oded Zucker yesterday called on military elements to release six children between the ages of 10 and 12, who, he said, were arrested by the security forces and detained at the Gaza police station. The children were arrested after a stoning incident and their parents cannot afford to pay the 500-shekel fine to obtain their release. The Gaza District Police spokesman said in response that the children are not being detained by the police and that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] should be approached. [passage omitted]

There were demonstrations in the Tulkarm refugee camp and Tulkarm's Shuwaykah neighborhood yesterday, but there were no casualties. The tax collection campaign continues in the town. The IDF used jeeps outfitted with loudspeakers to declare Bethlehem a closed area yesterday. All nonresidents were ordered to leave the town immediately. The announcement said the blockade would last until Sunday.

The Civil Administration announced yesterday that it would postpone the sale of goods confiscated in Bayt Sahur over the past 2 weeks. The administration planned to hold a public auction of the confiscated goods in a few days, but said it had agreed to the request of some of the residents to postpone the sale to enable them to pay their debts and reclaim their belongings. The announcement did not mention a new auction date.

In Hebron, two schools were closed yesterday on the order of the authorities. Palestinian sources in Nabulus reported yesterday the arrest of 'Umar 'Arafat, 23, who was on the wanted list. 'Arafat was arrested at the entrance to his home. [passage omitted]

In a rare move, several dozen masked men in Nabulus yesterday called on residents, in the name of Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, not to carry out the strike orders of the latest leaflet from the Unified National Command of the Uprising. They said that in the past month the town has gone through many curfews and strikes, and that shops are almost never open. Nabulus residents blamed East Jerusalem uprising activists, who are assumed to have written the leaflet, of trying to resuscitate the uprising without taking into account the suffering caused to residents in especially affected areas, such as Nabulus.

PFLP Members Arrested for Firing at Israel

JN0510204089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2020 GMT 5 Oct 89

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] REUTER cited an authorized source in Amman as saying that the Jordanian authorities today arrested some members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] on the charge of launching Katyusha rockets on Israel on 7 September.

King Addresses Tribal Leaders Near Ma'an 5 Oct

JN0510200289 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] His Majesty the King today visited Al-Huwaytat tribes at al-Husayniyah near the southern city of Ma'an and met notables and tribal chieftains.

Accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and his sons Prince 'Abdallah and Prince Hamzah, his majesty was welcomed by cheering crowds who organized nationalist dances and raised flags, the king's portrait, and other decorative signs in a show of enthusiastic welcome to the king.

In a speech to a rally at al-Husayniyah, His Majesty paid tribute to tribal leaders in Jordan for their efforts to serve the nation. His Majesty recalled in particular the endeavors and national stands of Faysal Bin-Jazi and Chairman Abu-Tayih, among other tribal chieftains, and said that the spirit of cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family should be maintained and bolstered. Referring to the Arab Cooperation Council, His Majesty said it served as a new springboard for enhancing cooperation and solidarity among Arab countries.

His Majesty was accompanied on the visit by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, and other officials.

Prime Minister Meets With Iraqi Labor Minister

JN0510123789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] His Excellency Prime Minister Zayd Ibn-Shakir received at his office this morning Dr Umid Midhat Mubarak, Iraqi minister of labor and social affairs, in the presence of Labor Minister Dr Jamal al-Budur. At the start of the meeting, Dr Mubarak communicated to his excellency the prime minister the greetings of Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister of Iraq. The prime minister asked the Iraqi labor minister to convey his greetings and good wishes to Taha Yasin Ramadan.

In the course of the meeting, the prime minister reviewed the level of cooperation reached in the field of labor among the ACC [Arab Cooperation Council] member states and at the local, regional, and international levels, and the extent of coordination among ACC labor ministers and with the concerned Arab and international organizations, in implementation of the ACC state leaders' directives and the agreements reached among the ACC states to realize the objectives and ambitions aspired by this blessed council.

Masa'idah on Election Nomination Procedures

JN0410150689 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Salim Masa'idah, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, believes that the Jordanian Government will not resort to applying Paragraph 4, Article 18 of the Parliamentary Elections Law, which bans the nomination of any person belonging to outlawed organizations. In a statement to our radio, Masa'idah explained that the Interior Ministry will be satisfied with the nominee's acknowledgement, in the nomination application form, that he does not belong to any outlawed organization.

Paragraph E, Article 18, which caused a great deal of controversy in political circles, stipulates that a nominee must not belong to an outlawed organization; that is, any party or organization whose principles and objectives contradict the provisions of the Constitution. Masa'idah said that the nominee will be required, upon completing the nomination form during the nomination period from 14-16 October—that is, 25 days before the voting time—to present documents relating to certain clauses of Article 18 dealing with the age, nationality, and nonconviction of the nominee. On the other hand, the article gives the nominee the freedom to sign an acknowledgement asserting that he does not belong to an outlawed party, does not hold a foreign nationality, or enjoy foreign protection, or claim material interest in any government department.

Informed sources believe that the acknowledgement to be signed by the nominee will not eventually prevent the government from applying the law if something is found in the records against the nominee while the application is under consideration.

Jordanian-Syrian Dam Commitee Ends Meetings

JN0510172689 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Damascus, 5 Oct (PETRA)—The Jordanian-Syrian Joint Committee meetings to exploit the waters of the al-Yarmuk River were concluded in Damascus today. The meetings were chaired for Jordan by Dr Muhammad Bani Hani, secretary general of the Jordan Valley Authority, and for Syria by Barakat al-Hadid, assistant irrigation minister.

In a statement to PETRA in Damascus, Dr Bani Hani said that during the 2 days of meetings the two sides reviewed the progress of work on the al-Wahdah Dam diversion tunnel and the minutes of the committee's meeting in Amman last June. He said: The committee reviewed what has been achieved concerning the final

designs of the al-Wahdah Dam, the companies qualified to participate, the financing, and the financial situation of the committee. In addition, they discussed the use of water and irrigated land in the al-Yarmuk basin on both the Jordanian and Syrian sides. The appropriate decisions and recommendations were made.

Dr Bani Hani added that a spirit of full cooperation prevailed in the meetings between the two sides in accordance with instructions from the leaders of the two sisterly countries. He further said that an agreement was reached on exchanging visits between engineers and technicians to exchange expertise and information in the fields of irrigation and water management. He said that the committee will hold its next meeting in Amman in January. [passage omitted]

Profits Reported in Phosphate, Fertilizers

JN0210111089 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 20

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company has earned profits amounting to $61 million during the first 7 months of this year.

A report received by the Amman Stockmarket indicates that net sales of fertilizers amounted to approximately $48 million while net sales of phosphate amounted to approximately $83 million. Net profits in phosphate amounted to approximately $52 million, while net profits in fertilizers amounted to $9 million after a drop in the industrial cost of sales as well as purchasing and marketing expenses.

Gunmen Kidnap 2 Swiss Red Cross Officials

NC0610171589 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Quoting security sources, REUTER reported a short while ago that gunmen have kidnapped two Swiss officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] in Sidon. The sources said that the kidnapping took place at 0830 this morning.

According to this report, the two officials were riding in a French-made white Peugeot and were on their way to the International Red Cross headquarters in Sidon.

Red Cross Confirms Kidnapping

NC0610083489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] (Roland Fiedler), representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has confirmed that two Swiss officials employed by the committee were kidnapped in the city of Sidon today. (Elio Arkev) and (Emmanuel Christian) were abducted while on their way to the Red Cross headquarters in Sidon. It has been reported that intensive contacts are being held to secure their release.

Palestinian Link Denied

NC0610124889 Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Spellings of names as received]

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, Oct 6 (AFP)—Two Swiss Red Cross workers were kidnapped at gunpoint Friday at the entrance of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian refugee camp near here, security officials and local leaders said.

Emanuel Christen and Elio Erriquez, aged in their 30's, were forced out of their car in front of an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) medical center by four armed men and driven off in another car.

Sunni Moslem Popular Nasirite Organization's (PNO) militia leader Mustafa Sa'd said the two had been kidnapped for cash rather than political reasons.

Sidon, which is home to some 100,000—mainly Palestinian—refugees, is also the PNO's stronghold. Following a meeting with the ICRC's representative in Sidon, Roland Sidler, Mr. Sa'd refused to link any Palestinian organization to the abduction.

Another ICRC worker, Peter Winkler, was kidnapped in Sidon on November 17, 1988, and released a month later. The Red Cross halted activities in south Lebanon after his abduction but resumed operations on February 17, 1989. His kidnapping occurred as Swiss authorities prepared for the trial of Muhammad al-Hariri, a Lebanese Shiite Moslem from southern Lebanon accused of hijacking an Air Afrique plane and killing a French passenger in July 1987.

Mr. Sa'd, who mediated Mr. Winkler's release, dismissed any ties between Friday's kidnappers and the Al-Hariri case, adding that ICRC representatives in Sidon were not keeping him abreast of their movements to enable him to protect them. The PNO meanwhile set up roadblocks at the entrance to the city while its patrols searched vehicles' trunks, correspondents reported.

An ICRC spokesman in Beirut confirmed the kidnapping and said both men worked as orthopedic technicians at the Sidon center. At the ICRC's Geneva headquarters a spokesman expressed "shock" over the incident since the organization had received "specific guarantees" over the saftey of its employees from all Lebanese groups before resuming its operations there. The kidnapping brought to 24 the number of foreign hostages believed held in Lebanon.

Extremist pro-Iranian Shiite groups are believed to hold most of the foreign hostages in Lebanon, but seven French and Belgians are in the hands of a radical Palestinian group, the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) headed by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna].

The FRC, which has a presence in Sidon, is hostile to PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the mainstream PLO groups.

Group Claims Killing of Belgian Jewish Leader

NC0510110889 Paris AFP in English 1046 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Beirut, Oct 5 (AFP)—The Organization of Soldiers for the Right, a clandestine group which abducted a Belgian physician here last year, claimed responsibility Thursday for the murder of Belgian Jewish leader Joseph Wybran.

In a statement received by a Western news agency here, the group said it had "executed" Dr. Wybran and accused him of being a "senior official of Mosad," the Israeli secret service.

Dr. Wybran, 49, director of the Coordination Committee of Jewish Organizations in Belgium, was shot in the head Tuesday outside the hospital where he worked in the Brussels suburb of Anderlecht. He died Wednesday.

"This action is a response to the increased Israeli repression in the occupied territories and south Lebanon," and to "the suspicious calls for coexistence and normalization of relations with the Zionist entity," said the statement, typewritten in Arabic.

The Soldiers for the Right first emerged in December 1988, when the shadowy Lebanese group claimed the abduction of Jan Cools, a Belgian doctor with the Norwegian Aid Committee, in south Lebanon the previous May.

Dr. Cools, who was also accused of working for Israeli intelligence, was released last June after the intervention

of Abu Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna's] Fatah Revolutionary Council, a Palestinian group hostile to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Sham'un Says Occupations Threaten Talks

NC0510105589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un has spoken on the telephone with deputies Dr George Sa'adah, Michel Sasin, and Pierre Dakkash on the course of the negotiations that are in progess in al-Ta'if. Sham'un emphasized that the main obstacle facing the negotiations is still the issue of troop withdrawals. There are neither any serious guarantees with regard to Lebanon's sovereignty while the Israeli and Syrian occupations continue, nor any promises to draw up a timetable for the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon, he added.

Sham'un expressed fears that a lack of clarity and frankness over this issue would obstruct the implementation of any agreement that might be reached over reform. The existence of the occupations is bound to undermine any inter-Lebanese agreement, he said. Sham'un rejected in principle the appointment of [new] deputies to the vacant seats, saying that this would run counter to the people's desire to choose their representatives and to the provisions of the Constitution. It would also be a serious blow against democracy and the people's freedom, because parliamentary elections, which reflect the will of the people, form a component part of national sovereignty. Sham'un reiterated the need for the withdrawal of all the occupation armies before the election of a new Chamber of Deputies.

Sham'un cautioned against the statements made by Iranian officials, and some organizations which are agents of the Iranian regime, rejecting every agreemnent that is likely to unify the Lebanese. This, Sham'un added, indicates that Damascus has begun its attempt to abort every agreement that may be reached in al-Ta'if. It also constitutes a threat to the deputies meeting in al-Ta'if and an obstruction to the Arab tripartite committee's aim of restoring Lebanon's full sovereignty. The Syrian attempt is in line with the Iranian regime's plans, Sham'un concluded.

AL-'AHD Interviews Saudi Hizballah Scholar

NC0510125889 Beirut AL-'AHD in Arabic 29 Sep 89 p 10

[Interview with unidentified scholar of Saudi Hizballah by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] What are the strategies of Hizballah al-Hijaz [Saudi Arabia] and Hizballah Kuwait?

[Scholar] The doctrine of Hizballah is the same throughout the Islamic world. It was developed by the great Imam Khomeyni who called for the formation of Hizballah cells in the Islamic world. It is to be expected, therefore, that there will not be any differences between the strategies of Hizballah al-Hijaz, Hizballah Kuwait, Hizballah Lebanon, or Hizballah anywhere else, for their strategy is based on the teachings of Imam Khomeyni, which are in turn based on Islamic principles. Hizballah always follows the teachings of the leading imam, and his successor and Supreme Jurisconsult [Waliy al-Faqih] Sayyid 'Ali Khamene'i.

[Correspondent] Who leads this party, and do the ulema have an effective role in the leadership?

[Scholar] We believe that the leadership in Hizballah should be given to the struggling 'ulema [al-'ulama' al-mujahidin], who have taken it upon themselves to lead the nation down the right path. For example, the representative of Imam Khomeyni in Kuwait was the late Sayyid 'Abbas al-Mahri. Al-Mahri had links with Imam Khomeyni before the triumph of the revolution. After the revolution, Al-Mahri was forced to leave Kuwait and went to live in Iran. The leadership of Hizballah or the Islamic nation should be solely entrusted to the struggling 'ulema.

[Correspondent] What is the connection between Hizballah and the Islamic Republic of Iran?

[Scholar] Having mentioned the goals of Hizballah and its commitment to the line and guidelines of the imam and the current Supreme Jurisconsult Ayatollah Sayyid 'Ali Khamene'i, it must be surmised that our relationship with the Islamic Republic of Iran is very strong, for we should recall that the Islamic Republic is the haven of all the revolutionaries and freedom-fighters in the world. This does not mean that Islamic policy should always be equated with that of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The strugglers may have their own policies that differ from those followed by the Islamic Republic in its external and official relations with other countries.

[Correspondent] How do you see the onslaught against Shiites living in al-Hijaz by the Wahhabis [Saudi ruling family]?

[Scholar] The Wahhabi doctrine appeared about 250 years ago in Najd. Under 'Abd-al-'Aziz [Al Sa'ud] it spread to Mecca and its environs as well as to the Shiite oil-rich areas to the east. The Shiites entered into alliance with Al Saud to avoid submission to Ottoman rule. However, 'Abd-al-'Aziz then broke his pledges to the Shiites, turned against them, and persecuted them. He prevented the Shiites from practicing their beliefs and a large number of the struggling scholars were killed by the Wahhabis. A Shiite now has no right to bring any book from abroad into the country, not even the Koran. Shiites are not allowed to bring Husayni earth [from the town where the prophet's grandson was killed] into the country. The police, upon detecting such earth, would force Shiite travelers to throw it into the toilets in order to humiliate them and their beliefs.

The police always arrest the brothers who organize 'Ashura' ceremonies. This year they arrested 25 youths whose only crime was to organize ceremonies to mourn Husayn. They also arrested Ahmad al-Mu'allim, a Shiite preacher, for addressing such ceremonies, and many others received similar treatment. [passage omitted]

SLA's Lahd Vows To Gain Areas East of Sidon

NC0610072489 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] During an inspection tour of the Jazzin region, Major General Antoine Lahd, South Lebanese Army [SLA] commander, emphasized that sooner or later he will carry out his pledge to regain the areas east of Sidon.

Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli Government activities in Lebanon, who accompanied Maj Gen Lahd during the inspection tour, said that the Lebanese deputies should have held their meetings in Marj 'Uyun, Bint Jubayl, or any area in the security belt where security, stability, and peace prevail. He added that a solution of the Lebanese problem can only come from Lebanon and not from abroad.

Israeli, SLA Operations in South Reported

SLA Involved in Clashes

NC0510161389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] At dawn today, in the resisting south, Israeli military planes flew for 1 hour over the liberated area north of Hasbayya and dropped scores of flares.

This morning agent Lahd militia [South Lebanese Army] positions fired two artillery shells at the outskirts of Jarju', causing material damage.

Intermittent clashes took place this morning on the combat lines of Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir between the Popular Liberation Army-Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd forces and the agent Lahd militia.

Israelis, Gunmen Clash

NC0410181889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] According to initial reports from the south, a resistance group clashed with an Israeli occupation force patrol in the Bayt Lif area of Bint Jubayl district last night. While we have received no detailed information about this clash, the Israeli enemy radio reported that two resistance fighters were killed and an Israeli soldier slightly wounded.

Israeli occupation forces also shelled the 'Ayn al-Tinah area in western al-Biqa' from their positions in Balat last night. Between 2230 and 2400 yesterday, the Israeli occupation forces fired flares and directed mortar fire on areas adjacent to their positions in Jabal Basil, Balat, and Ramiyah.

Last night, an Israeli bulldozer was seen working on the road leading to the Israeli position in Qal'at al-Shaqif and later reinforcing the position.

In another development, Israeli warplanes carried out mock raids over areas east of Sidon. They also flew at low altitude over the al-Zahrani area and the coastal road.

Two Cobra gunships flew at low altitude over the area between Yatar and al-Mansuri between 1030 and 1045 today.

A NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent reported from Hasbayya that the occupation forces' and militias' positions on the Shwayya plain directed machinegun fire at Mazra'at 'Ayn Tanta for about 30 minutes last night, damaging a house and setting neighboring fields on fire.

A militia force, consisting of a tank, an M-113 armored personnel carrier, and 16 soldiers, combed the Marj 'Uyun-Zummarayya road, where mines are frequently planted. In the al-'Urqub area, an Israeli armored force supported by helicopters advanced from Ruwaysat al-'Alam toward Kafr Shuba and combed the area for 3 hours.

Israeli Casualties Claimed

NC0410190889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] The Fatah Movement-Revolutionary Council said in a statement issued in Beirut today that a group of its fighters had inflicted many casualties when it clashed with Israeli soldiers. The group of fighters encountered the Israelis while en route to attack an Israeli settlement.

Israel today confirmed that two gunmen were killed and an Israeli soldier wounded last night in a clash in Bayt Lif in southern Lebanon.

Correction to Lahd Cited on Al-Ta'if Meetings

The following correction pertains to the item published on page 39 of the 4 October Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, column two, entitled "SLA Commander Lahd Cited on Al-Ta'if Meetings":

Paragraph 3, first sentence should read: ...the executive power, Syrian-Lebanese ties and the... (changing "Libyan" to read "Lebanese")

Daily Sees Little Change in Baker's Statement

JN0410100989 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0918 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Damascus, 4 Oct (SANA)—In its editorial today, the newspaper TISHRIN comments on the recent statement by James Baker in which he expressed hope that direct Israeli-Palestinian talks would be held without an actual Syrian participation. The newspaper adds that Baker's statement is not new, although it is contrary to many people's expectations, especially after reports were released on a serious U.S. trend to achieve a settlement in the region.

The newspaper also says that Syria has never been asked to participate in the expected Israeli-Palestinian talks because Syria believes these talks are sterile and will not lead to a just solution.

Referring to the statement which Baker made during a news conference following his meeting with Faruq al-Shar', in which he said that Damascus' participation is necessary when talks deal with the Golan Heights, TISHRIN says that Syria has never made deals over the occupied Golan and is not waiting its turn in the arrangement made by the United States in coordination with Israel and its policy to fragment the Arabs and deal unilaterally with every Arab state through separate deals.

The paper refers to Shamir's plan to hold elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, stating: This plan is a maneuver to contain the intifadah and to subjugate the Palestinian people, because what Israel wants is negotiators who will agree to placing the Palestinians under Zionist sovereignty in return for granting them some insignificant rights such as the freedom of movement, the running of education and health affairs, and so on.

TISHRIN reviews the concessions that the Palestinians have made to the Zionist entity, which include recognition. It says: In return for this, we have seen that Israel did not make even a single concession. It neither agreed to return the land, nor to withdraw, nor even to recognize the side that has recognized it. These results did not surprise Syria. In fact, Syria has always expected them, warned those who expressed optimism against making concessions, and stressed the importance of confronting the Zionist enemy through a unified Arab stand.

Concluding, TISHRIN warns the Arabs against falling into the trap of separate settlements and deals. It stresses that a settlement of the region's crisis can only be achieved within a comprehensive framework and through an international conference for peace under UN auspices, a conference with a fixed agenda that includes the implementation of UN resolutions on Palestine and the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Shar' Confers With Counterparts in New York

JN0510153289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] New York—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met in New York yesterday with Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], who asked him to convey the greetings of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks revolved around the brotherly relations between Syria and the YAR. A number of Arab issues also were discussed.

Al-Shar' had earlier met with Nepalese Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar. Bilateral relations and the situation on the Indian Subcontinent were reviewed during the meeting.

The foreign minister had also met with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and conferred with him on bilateral relations and a number of issues of common concern. The foreign minister then met with Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and discussed with him bilateral relations and the situation in the region, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict and the efforts being exerted to solve the Lebanese crisis.

Al-Shar' also met with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayeh, and conferred with him on the ongoing negotiations concerning the Eritrean problem.

Israeli Peace Call Deserves 'Ridicule'

PM0510140189 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 19 Sep 89 p 2

[Na'im Tahir article: "The Zionist Peace"]

[Text] The Zionist talk of "peace" should be viewed with caution and some ridicule, particularly as it comes in the form of initiatives launched by enemy leaders who never in their history worked for peace or moved in that direction. For that reason, any Zionist talk of "peace" is a trap aimed at destroying "peace."

For some time now the Zionist war leaders have been taking turns and in fact have been competing with each other in making calls for such a "peace." What makes them so enthusiastic about establishing peace?

There can be no doubt that the intifadah has the direct and uncomplicated answer. The Zionist enemy's failure to face and destroy the intifadah through repressive measures, already used and perhaps to be used in the future, is the only clear and striking fact in the Zionist military establishment—a failure that is now prompting peace calls from terrorists with long records inside and outside the Zionist entity.

It is quite clear that the enemy is trying to pretend that it advocates peace because it wants to circumvent and put down the intifadah in Palestine. The phase before the intifadah confirms this, because the idea of "elections"

was never mentioned in the Zionist entity then and no terrorist such as Shamir volunteered an initiative for "elections" then. So why all this Zionist zeal now?

The confrontations and clashes that have been going on in the occupied Arab territories for around 2 years now mean that the Zionist entity no longer has the initiative and that it is now on the defensive, and that torpedoes one of the main pillars of the Zionist military theory. When the intifadah followed the course of civil disobedience backed by rocks and molotov cocktails, the enemy army lost control of the battle and its sophisticated superior weapons were foiled. The intifadah has shaken the Zionist entity from within, from that entity's weak interior which is burdened with many crises in its army, in its economy, and in its ailing society.

That is why the intifadah knows well how to tackle the enemy's "peace." It realizes that the aim of the enemy's "initiatives" is to destroy it. Therefore, anyone who sponsors or "develops" such a "peace" is contributing, in one way or another, to the destruction of the intifadah. The one thing that the intifadah and everyone in the Zionist entity and the Arab world know well is that the course of the intifadah is the right course and it will prevail, and that the path of struggle it has taken from the beginning will not allow the promoters of Zionist "initiatives" to make it possible for these "initiatives" to see the light.

Groups Issue Statement on War Anniversary

JN0510152089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Oct 89

["Text" of statement issued on 5 October by the Syrian popular organizations and professional unions on the 16th anniversary of the October 1973 war]

[Excerpts] O militant masses of our people: The masses of the Arab nation along with the masses of our Arab people in Syria celebrate the 16th anniversary of the October war of liberation, commemorating that heroic epic waged simultaneously by the forces of the two valiant Arab armies in Syria and Egypt against the strongholds of the Zionist aggressors to terminate the myth of the enemy's alleged superiority, defeat aggression, and place the Arab nation before a new historical stage. [passage omitted]

O militant masses of our people: The anniversary of the October war of liberation represents a permanent hope of victory. By its events and developments, this war demonstrated an ability to achieve victory, which is indispensable for confronting the Zionist enemy's arrogance and self-deceit and the colonialist and imperialist ambitions led by the United States against the Arab existence and higher pan-Arab objectives. This was manifested during and after the war when traitor Anwar al-Sadat embraced the U.S. policy and its illusions and viewed the war as an activation of the political situation to attain cheap, false gains which only led to further Arab collapse.

Our country under struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the republic, confronted these schemes from the outset. It has realized that the greedy Zionist ambitions are unlimited and that the basic contradiction is between the Arab nation and its allies on the one hand and the imperialist-Zionist alliance on the other. Our country also realizes that confronting this contradiction necessitates the establishment of a unified Arab front and effective Arab solidarity that places the achievement of strategic parity with the enemy at the top of priorities in defense of the Arab nation's national legitimate interests. [passage omitted]

O militant masses of our people: Today marks the 16th anniversary of the October war of liberation, which coincides with extremely complicated and difficult circumstances facing the pan-Arab struggle. Some Arab states persist in their policies that wager on a new U.S. role in the region, although current facts and modern history reveal that any U.S. role must be in the interest of the Zionist enemy and will lead to U.S. hegemony and imperialist control over the region.

The post-war years have exposed the United States' crimes against the Arab nation through its unlimited support for the Zionist enemy and absolute adherence to the Zionist security theory. This has weakened the Arab military capability and driven entire Arab regimes—like Egypt and Iraq—out of the battle. This was followed by attempts to endanger the pan-Arab security and the strategic Arab constants—like in Lebanon—as well as by imposing an economic blockade on Syria. This all necessitates maintaining the spirit of the October war of liberation, which constitutes a turning point in our longstanding conflict against the Zionist enemy and a springboard for future wars of liberation. Al-Asad's Syria, which led the October war of liberation, is the cornerstone and vanguard force leading the Arab nation's steadfastness against the enemy schemes in order to consolidate the Arab stand and fulfill the slogan of strategic parity. [passage omitted]

Afghanistan

Spokesman Terms Pakistani Charges 'Groundless'

LD05101812289 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] A Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson has made the following statement in connection with the recent speech by Mrs Nusrat Bhutto, head of Pakistan's delegation to the 44th UN General Assembly, about Afghanistan exerting military pressure on the Government of Pakistan:

As the Republic of Afghanistan Government has stated several times, on the occasions when it summoned the charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul and via other diplomatic and political channels, it once again describes as groundless and unjustifiable the accusations and claim made by the head of Pakistan's delegation to the current session of the UN General Assembly, about missile and air strikes from the Republic of Afghanistan's territory against Pakistan. The Republic of Afghanistan refutes these charges.

Such unjust accusations are being made in order to conceal the daily, proven, and flagrant Pakistani aggression and interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. The Pakistan Government, by launching such propaganda, in fact wants to cover up the powerful impulse which has been created in the international community against the war and bloodshed in the Republic of Afghanistan, and therefore wants to remove the burden of responsibility for the continuation of war and fratricide in our country from its and its foreign patrons' shoulders. The Republic of Afghanistan has declared many times that it supports, for the (?sake of the) political solution of the existing issues, normalization of ties with all the countries and in particular with its neighbors.

The Republic of Afghanistan has not threatened the security of any country, and is of the opinion that all the existing issues can be solved not by exerting military presure, but through political dialogue, taking into account the interests of all the involved parties.

Observation of the Geneva accords by Pakistan could be considered as the first step in this direction. The Republic of Afghanistan considers these accusations to be against the spirit and content of the Geneva accords, it demands that Pakistan, instead of resorting to such methods, should take practical and firm steps toward a political solution of the existing conflict, prevent the conflict being transformed into a dangerous regional conflict.

Najibullah Commemorates Balkhi Birthday

LD06100651189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0509 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 5, BAKHTAR—The cultural policy of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan requires that the esteemable legacies of the past should be preserved and the scientific and literary genuineness of the past generations be respected, says a message released by Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, on the occasion of the 806th birth anniversary of Mawlana Jalaluddin Muhammad Balkhi which was marked here today officially for the first time.

The message recalled the distinguished characteristics of Mawlana and attracted the attention of Afghan researchers to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the precious works of Mawlana. The message noted that the state of the Republic of Afghanistan is prepared to provide the incentives and facilities for the researchers and will get their researches published.

Rebel Leader Says New Shura To Form by Feb

BK0510155189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Pir Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, the chief justice of the Afghan Interim Government, told newsmen in Islamabad today that a new representative shura will be elected before the term of the present interim government expires in February next year. Addressing a news conference, he said that the shura will make decisions on a future plan of action after elections. Pir Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani said that these elections will be held in refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran and the in regions of Afghanistan that have been liberated by the mujahidin.

Hekmatyar Calls for Strong, Elected Government

BK0510031089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The foreign minister of the Afghan interim government, Engineer Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, has said that for a peaceful transfer of power in Afghanistan, the need of the hour is an elected and strong government there. Speaking to newsmen in Rawalpindi yesterday, he said elections could be held in 230 out of 260 liberated revenue districts [tehsils] in Afghanistan and among 3.5 million Afghan refugees based in Pakistan for the establishment of this kind of a government. He rejected the possibility for a durable solution to the Afghanistan issue by any other means, including the convening of a regional or international conference or the grand assembly, as these are impracticable.

747 'Extremists' Killed in Operations

LD0410130789 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 3, BAKHTAR—In the span of September 25-October 2 over 747 extremists were killed and 852 others wounded as a result of the mopping up operations and retalitory attacks of the armed forces in Nangarhar, Qandahar, Jowzjan, Herat, Samangan, Helmand, and Badakhshan Provinces and the Khowst Grand District. Twelve servicemen were killed and 70 wounded.

The extremist war-mongers launched 15 ground to ground rockets on Kabul city killing 10 and wounding several civilians. Also during the rocket attacks of the extremists 6 people were killed in Tarin Kowt, centre of Oruzgan Province.

Twenty four ground to ground rockets mounted on the strategic points in the Dehsabz and Lalander areas, Kabul Province, were discovered by the Armed Forces and seized during the week.

Becoming aware of the benefits of the national reconciliation policy, 680 people joined the policy in that period.

Armed clashes occurred between the Gulbuddin and Rabbani as well as Muhammad Nabi and Jamiat groups claimed the lives of 118 extremists twenty five others wounded.

The clashes which occurred over the distribution of looted properties and internal differences among the groups are continuing in the Farah, Herat, Badghis, Badakhshan, Takhar and other corners of the country.

Twenty four refugee families number [as received] 320 people who were living abroad returned home.

It must be said that since the announcement of the national reconciliation policy over 221,000 refugees i.e. 31,220 families composed of 188,600 and 33,000 individuals returned home.

Notes number 827-841 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on violations by Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva accords were submitted to the Office of the United Nations Good Services Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan during the week as well.

BAKHTAR Details 5 Oct Battle Situation

LD0610064689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 5, BAKHTAR—Contingents and detachments of the Armed Forces stationed in the Khowst Grand District which possess high combat readiness have shunned war activities of the extremists, Pakistanis and Saudi Wahhabis there, an authorised military source said. The war-mongers took the Gardeyz city under fire and killed a civilian.

The armed extremists, supported by Pakistan, attacked security posts in the Sorkh Rud, Kameh and Behsud areas, Nangarhar Province. No one was killed or wounded. The Armed Forces retaliated and killed 25 extremists. Twenty nine extremists were wounded and their arms and ammunition destroyed.

A report reached from Qandahar said that the Qandahar garrison in its mopping up operation carried out around the Qandahar airport killed 16 extremist and wounded 8 others. A sizeable quantity of armaments of the enemy seized.

Five extremists killed and 11 others wounded by the armed forces in Herat. Two vehicles, a petroleum depot as well as a garment and foodstuffs depot of the enemy evacuated.

Rebels Continue To Hold Kabul-Jalalabad Highway

BK0510111689 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway is still under the control of mujahidin despite frequent efforts of the Kabul regime troops to open the highway. Reports say mujahidin destroyed two military posts at (Sami Noshka). They also repulsed a major attack of Kabul regime troops in Sarowbi area.

Kabul Troops Launch New Attacks on Rebel Bases

BK0610023489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that Kabul regime forces have launched fresh attacks on mujahidin bases to open the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway. The mujahidin are maintaining their control on a 20-km area of the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway, which is the only link between the two cities. Mujahidin groups have begun coordinated attacks on the outskirts of Jalalabad, and in a two-pronged attack they have captured several Kabul regime posts.

India

Dalai Lama Congratulated for Nobel Peace Prize

BK0510144989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] This year's Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. The Nobel Peace Committee announced this in the Norwegian capital, Oslo, today. The citation says that the award has been given for advocating peaceful solutions based on tolerance and mutual respect in order to preserve the historical and cultural heritage of his people.

An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that India has always held the Dalai Lama in the highest esteem as a spiritual leader, as a steadfast proponent of peace, and an apostle of non-violence. He said the Dalai Lama is admired in the country and all over the world.

The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, congratulated the Dalai Lama. In a message, Mr Venkataraman extended warm felicitations and said the award is a tribute to the spiritual and moral pre-eminence of the Dalai Lama.

'Deeply Touched' by Honor

BK0610092289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, has said that he is deeply touched to be chosen for the Nobel Peace Prize this year. In a message released in New Delhi today, he said this honor reaffirms the universal values of nonviolence, peace, and international understanding. The exiled Tibetan leader also said that the practice of love and compassion, tolerance, and respect for others is the most effective way to achieve a happier and more harmonious world.

Striking an optimistic note about the future, the Tibetan spiritual leader expressed the hope that the Chinese Government will follow the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi's Ahimsa [nonviolence] which has deeply inspired him since his childhood.

Thousands of Tibetan people living at Dharmsala celebrated the conferment of the Nobel Peace Prize on the spiritual leader. The Tibetan Congress has also expressed happiness.

PRC's Wu Xueqian To Pay Official Visit 11-18 Oct

BK0510155789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Chinese vice premier, Mr Wu Xueqian, will pay an official visit to India from the 11th to the 18th of this month. He will be accompanied by an official-level delegation. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that bilateral relations between India and China and various regional and international issues will be discussed.

External Affairs Minister Addresses UN Assembly

BK0610044089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] India has urged the world body against carrying on the futile search for a military solution in Afghanistan and said the continued bloodbath would only prolong the agony of the Afghan people. Addressing the United Nations General Assembly, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, said India has been concerned over the continued bloodbath in Afghanistan even after the Soviet troops had withdrawn. He called upon all parties to implement the Geneva accords in letter and spirit and come to the negotiating table for a political solution. He said President Najibullah's recent proposals for national reconciliation are far-reaching and deserve serious consideration.

About the Gulf, Mr Rao voiced dismay at the lack of progress in translating the cease-fire reached last year between Iran and Iraq into durable peace.

Mr Rao decried a tendency in some major industrialized countries to force their will on trading partners and adopt coercive means to penetrate into their markets. In this context, Mr Rao reiterated the call made in July in Paris by India, Egypt, Venezuela, and Senegal for the commencement of the process of the summit-level consultations among developed and developing countries. He welcomed the positive response from major industrialized countries, including Canada and France, and hoped that others would also do so.

Mr Rao also called for revitalization of the North-South dialogue on the basis of ('mutuality) of interest and working out a package of policies for the return of the world economy to higher growth conditions shared by all groups of countries. He also regretted that official development assistance has been stagnating in real terms and other financial flows, especially commercial ones, had dried up in the later half of the 1980's.

'Terrorists' Kill 6 in Punjab Districts 5 Oct

BK0610033889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists gunned down six persons, including five members of a family, and seriously injured two BSF [Border Security Force] officers last night.

According to an official spokesman, terrorists entered the village of Khandwala in Ferozepore District and shot dead a farmer, his three sons, and a brother. The victims were sleeping in their house when attacked. A massive manhunt for the culprits has been launched.

In Hoshiarpur District, terrorists gunned down a woman in her house. An officiating commandant and a deputy commandant of the BSF were seriously injured when a landmine exploded under their jeep in Rasulpur village near Kadia.

Tripartite Talks on Assam Tribal Problem Begin

BK0510091589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The second round of tripartite talks to find a political solution to the Bodo [Assam tribals] problem in Assam between the center, the Assam government, and the All Bodo Students Union [ABSU] began in New Delhi this morning.

The union minister of state for welfare, Dr Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, is representing the Center at the talks. The Assam government delegation is led by the chief minister, Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta. Other members of the delegation include the state home minister, Mr Brighu Kumar Phukan; the law minister, Mr Surendranath Mehdi; the tribal welfare minister, Mr (Narang); the chief secretary; and the home commissioner. The 16-member All Bodo Students Union delegation is led by Mr Upendranath Brahma, president of the ABSU.

In his address to the meeting, Mr Mahanta said the arrangement that may be found to the Bodo problem must be acceptable to all sections of the people of the state, particularly the other tribal groups and organizations. He suggested that once a broad framework of a

solution is agreed to, details of may be worked out by a small group comprising representatives of various tribal organizations, the state government, and the Center. Tripartite discussions may again be held to consider the recommendations of this group. He said a timeframe may be stipulated for completion of the task by this group.

While emphasizing that a rational, reasonable, and durable solution to the tribal problem in Assam can be found only in an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding, Mr Mahanta regretted that after the conclusion of the first round of tripartite talks there was a sudden spurt of violence. He appealed to the Bodo leaders to carry the message and the results of the tripartite talks to their members so that a peaceful and congenial atmosphere is created to solve the problem.

'Good Progress' Noted

BK0510131289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] A tripartite committee with representatives of the Center, the Assam government, and the All Bodo Students Union [ABSU] is to go into the Bodo [Assam tribals] problem for a political solution. The committee will examine in-depth various administrative and legal aspects of the problem. This was decided at the second round of tripartite talks held in New Delhi today between the Center, the Assam government, and the ABSU.

The welfare minister, Dr Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, who is the central representative, later told newsmen that good progress has been made in the talks. It has been decided to continue the discussions in the first half of next month. The Assam government agreed to consider the request of the ABSU to release all the arrested persons except those charged of heinous offenses. The ABSU delegation gave an assurance to stop all types of violence.

The Bodo representatives reiterated their demand for a separate Bodoland. Dr Bajpai made it clear that the policy of the central government is against any further division of states.

On the question of relief to the Bodos staying in relief camps in Assam and other places, it was agreed that a joint committee of Assam government and the ABSU should visit the relief camps and persuade the people to return to their homes.

The Assam government delegation was led by the chief minister, Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, and the ABSU delegation by its president, Mr Upendranath Brahma.

Editorial Views Pakistan's 'Anti-India' Policy

BK0510030289 Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Anti-India Game in Pakistan]

[Text] Though Pakistan Premier Benazir Bhutto has not visibly demonstrated maladroit handling of domestic affairs, her position has remained vulnerable as far as the Kashmir question, Siachen and indeed the entire gamut of her India policy are concerned. Her fierce political opponents, particularly the Islamic Democratic Alliance, have been endeavouring to hit her where it hurts most. The recent, unanimous adoption of a resolution by Pakistani Senate, expressing solidarity with the "Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir", asking for the Kashmir issue to be resolved through a plebiscite, demanding withdrawal of Indian forces from Siachen, and talking of India's so-called "hegemonic designs", has to be seen in this broader context. Mr Nawaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab and Ms Bhutto's political rival, has for long been cocking a snook at the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] Government. Mr Sharif's no-holds barred campaign against Ms Bhutto's India policy seeks to weaken her internal position. The IDA [International Development Agency] is most active in Punjab which is virtually turning into a state within a state. It has accused Ms Bhutto of submitting Pakistan to Indian "hegemony" and of proceeding to make peace with India without getting the Kashmir question settled. Indeed there is an element of absurdity in the entire India debate in Pakistan and particularly in the Pakistani Senate, dominated as it is by the Zia-loyalists. Given the peculiar power structure, where anti-Indianism has been the main plank of the Opposition's campaign, the PPP government has also found it convenient to raise essentially bilateral issues in international forums as Begum Nusrat Bhutto recently did at Belgrade. All said and done, the euphoria about a new beginning in Indo-Pakistan relations is unrealistic. No doubt, the bilateral ties have received a fresh impetus after Ms Bhutto's rise to power, but this is circumscribed by certain factors which have been influenced by historic legacies that neither country can sweep under the carpet. Given this, there is an imperative need for India to guard against the perils of over-reaction to the Pakistani Senate's resolutions.

Iran

Khamene'i Visits Military Sciences University

LD0510212389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, this afternoon inspected the units stationed in the field of the Ground Forces Military Sciences University.

After his inspection tour and following his tribute to the martyrs of the university, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces awarded prizes, certificates, and citations to the graduate cadets of the Command and Staff Faculty. He also commissioned the graduating cadets of the Ground Forces Military Sciences University.

At the ceremonies the deputy commander in chief of the Ground Forces submitted a report on the acceptance of cadets and instruction methods at the university. Later the graduates and cadets of the Military Sciences University were sworn in by reading, in unison, the oath. They pledged to serve the sacred aspirations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, safeguard the Constitution, and spread God's law in the world.

Then, model personnel from the university, including several instructors, were awarded prizes, certificates, and citations, as well as commissions by the leader. Also, representatives of the former cadets, as well as present cadets, read two statements. The units stationed in the field chanted the unity song. [passage omitted]

After a speech by His Excellency Ayatollah Khamene'i, the commander in chief, the armed forces stationed at the Ground Forces Military Sciences University paraded past the Koran and the leader of the Islamic revolution.

Present at these ceremonies, which were performed magnificently, were the chairman of the Joint Staff and the Command Staff of the Armed Forces, as well as a number of commanders of the Army and Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, the security forces, representatives of the chief jurisconsult of the Supreme Defense Council, a number of Majlis representatives, and several clerics in ideopolitical offices of the armed forces, as well as families of the martyrs and the disabled, and university professors and military attaches of the foreign legations in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to this report, at these ceremonies the graduates of the 16th course of the Military Sciences University, known as the Unknown Martyrs course, were awarded certificates. Also new cadets were honored, receiving epaulettes after the swearing-in ceremony.

Praises Forces, Urges Unity

LD0510214889 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1724 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Speech by His Excellency Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i leader of the Islamic revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, at the Ground Forces Military Sciences University on 5 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] The Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] Army is honorable, inspires pride, and has modest expectations [kam tavaq'o]. Perhaps among the world's armies of which we know, there are very few which enjoy the same characteristics, or perhaps there are none at all. For 8 years the enemies inflicted an official war on us, and before that nearly 2 years of a genuine and active war on our nations. [sentence as heard] The army was present on the scene from the 1st day. I witnessed closely the efforts, self-sacrifices, toil, and efficiency in many elements of this efficient chain. The army should be organized and constructed in line with a nation's aspirations. Our aspirations are worthy and lofty.

We have always regarded nations, countries, and governments, with an eye toward friendship, cooperation, kindness, and mutual interests in a suitable manner. However, in a world in which the global domineering powers and the world's ruffians place their economic, political and strategic interests above the national interests of all nations; in a world in which a regime maintains a military warship, a military stronghold and military elements—with the sole purpose of safeguarding its own interests—thousands of kilometers away from its own borders; in a world in which the superpowers are willing to demolish the national security of all countries and borders in order to maintain what they claim is stability; and, unfortunately, in a world in which a multitude of nations, governments, and countries have put up with such a situation and have accepted this abnormal, inhuman, and irrational state; in a world in which sovereignty dominates and in which the nations and the governments have been divided into those who dominate and those who are domineered, with a very few exceptions; in this world and with this incorrect equation, our Islamic system, our courageous nation, and our revolution has risen to say: I reject domination; I reject the one who dominates; I will not bow my head to domination; I will do my utmost to awaken the nations with my sincere cry. How do you think those nations, who act as highwaymen in the world, will feel toward such a nation? It is natural that such feelings will not be amicable; they will be hostile and antagonistic. With such aspirations, and with such a clear, humane, and rational policy, we have risen. We have established a system, that is, the nation of Iran. The nation of Iran rose up with great aspirations, under the leadership of such a grand and eminent leader—that genuinely illustrious individual—and eradicated a corrupt dependent regime, like a decayed tooth which is pulled out, replacing it with this Islamic system based on independence, national liberation, emphasis on national ideals above those of the foreigners and [words indistinct] of the aggressors. It is only natural that the domineering powers and the world's looting thieves will be hostile toward such a nation and system.

This aspiration which I mentioned means rejection of domination, rejection of the domineering system, rejection of those who dominate and those who are dominated. Whenever we say this to the world, the nations become aroused. On many occasions when I was attending international gatherings and put forward this idea, I noticed that even the heads of governments were aroused. Their hands are tied. In some cases, their minds are closed, and in some their efforts fall short. However, they enjoy seeing a nation courageously enter the field, defending such an idea, without fearing anyone. This is our nation, and this is their aspiration. Its defensive power should be organized and bolstered in line with such a lofty and worthy aspiration.

You young ones, who have today been awarded epaulettes, who have today been commissioned and have graduated, you are establishing the potent base of such an armed force. Luckily, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army has had many good experiences which must be taken advantage of in classrooms and in textbooks. This faculty composed of staff and commanders, is a center in which, if properly managed and used for research, it would be proper to use all the great national projects in connection with the country's defense. We wish to construct a highway, a port, an international airport. We wish to construct a bridge or a dam. From a defensive viewpoint, under what conditions will such tasks be carried out? It is necessary for the experts, and military technicians to review these conditions in the scientific section of the faculty of staff and commanders. Religion should be practiced along with science in the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army. [passage omitted]

There is another point I would like to mention: The Army and the Guard Corps are two brothers, two blood brothers. They are both the offspring of the revolution, this territory, and this nation. Let not the enemy exploit ignorance and create discord between the two brothers. Today, thanks to God, relations between them are good. I enjoyed listening to the anthem which you sang. Let it be a guide for your actions. May God's blessing be upon you all.

Emami-Kashani Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

LD0610125589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The religious-political Friday prayers were today held throughout the country with the participation of Muslim compatriots. The people of Tehran, attending the University of Tehran and adjoining streets, also performed this Muhammadan rite under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani.

The interim Friday imam of Tehran in his second sermon, referring to the heavy duties and responsibilities of the Council of Guardians ever since its formation, said:

The principles of jurisprudence and the Constitution have always received the attention of the Council of Guardians, and the main task of this council is to make sure that the resolutions of the Majlis precisely correspond with the principles of jurisprudence and the Constitution.

Then, referring to the decree of his eminance the imam, may he be admitted to God's paradise, about the need for the formation of the Committee for Discerning Expediency for the System, and the reconvening of that group by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamane'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani emphasized: The Committee for Discerning Expediency is a valuable and lofty gathering, and the formation of such a gathering in the Islamic Republic of Iran was very necessary for discerning the interests of the system. We hope that, with the formation of this committee, the difficulties of the country, especially economic problems, will be solved with greater speed.

Continuing his second sermon, the interim Friday imam of Tehran referred to the issue of Afghanistan, saying: The Muslim and great Afghan nation knows very well that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always supported them until they have reached the present juncture of victory. Islamic Iran wishes that the future government of Afghanistan will be a comprehensive government accepted by the Muslim Afghan nation. In order to achieve that goal the Muslim Afghan nation should continue its move toward the attainment of complete independence with unity and cooperation.

Then praising the brave resistance of the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine against the constant crimes and plots of the enemies of Islam, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani said: Concerning Lebanon and Palestine, world arrogance is looking for a way out to save itself so that it can free itself in some way. Referring to the fact that the Lebanese Muslims constitute the majority of the inhabitants of that country, the interim Friday imam of Tehran stressed: The conference in al-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia should satisfy the demands of Lebanon's Muslim majority and the government of Lebanon should be taken out of the hands of the Maronites.

At the end of his sermons, referring to the spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice of the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani said: The achievement of independence will be possible for the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine as the result of reliance upon God, unity, and solidarity.

Karrubi, Lebanese Discuss Al-Ta'if Talks

LD0510142089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Shaykhs Sa'id Sha'ban, Ahmad Jibril, Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, Subhi al-Tufayli, and Colonel Abu-Musa, today met with Majlis Speaker Karrubi in the Majlis building.

The Central News Unit reports today the Majlis speaker pointed to the unity, solidarity, and commitment of Islamic and national forces in Lebanon. He said: In view of the great conspiracy waged against the Lebanese and Palestinian forces, as well as against the Islamic revolution in the region, the need for unity, solidarity, and resistance must continue to be the focal point of attention.

Mr Karrubi stressed the all-embracing support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the struggles of Lebanese and Palestinian brothers. He added: The Islamic Republic of Iran will support the rights of the Palestinian and Lebanese people with all its ability. The Majlis speaker then pointed to the convention of the al-Ta'if Lebanese parliamentary session, stating: In view of the fact that Muslims form the majority in Lebanon, if the

outcome of the al-Ta'if conference does not meet the interests of Muslims, and if the old and redundant system remains—in which non-Muslims, have an undeserved advantage—the conference outcome will be rejected by us, Syria, and the national Islamic forces.

Leaders Meet With Velayati

LD0510171589 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—The 6-member committee of Lebanese and Palestinian Islamic and National Forces met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati this morning to exchange views on agreements reached at the Tehran session earlier this week.

Velayati laid weight on the need for continuance of talks by the six-members to solve the Lebanese issue, and announced Iran's unsparing support for the stances of the committee.

The committee groups Lebanese leaders Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, Shaykh Suhbi Tufayli, Nabih Birri and Walid Jumblatt with revolutionary Palestinian leaders Colonel Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Ahmad Jibril.

Later in the day, the six members called on Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi, who placed emphasis on the need for further solidarity and unity. He promised that the Islamic Republic will firmly back the Lebanese and Palestinian people.

Referring to the al-Ta'if conference, Karrubi said if the results of the meet are not to the benefit of Lebanese Muslims and if the Maronite Chrisitan minority continues to maintain its unjust privileges as before, the conference will be rejected by Iran, Syria and national and Islamic forces.

A trilateral Arab committee comprising Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco is currently holding talks with some Lebanese MP's in the Hijazi resort town of al-Ta'if, but Islamic and nationalist forces are suspicious about its outcome.

Birri, Junblatt Leave for Beirut

LD0510184589 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Lebanon's Ministers of Justice and Transportation Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt left for Beirut today evening.

Before departure, Birri who heads the Amal Movement, told reporters at Mehrabad Airport, that if any proposal whether at al-Ta'if or anywhere else does not guarantee the changing of present Lebanese regime, it will not be accepted. He expressed fears over the result of the conference underway in the Hejazi resort town between some Lebanese parliamentarians and the trilateral Arab committee grouping Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco. Birri thought the meet a plot hatched by reactionary Arab states for legitimizing the unjust domination of the Maronite Christian minority sect on Lebanon.

Despite these apprehension, he added, "we hope we are mistaken in our evaluation and perhaps they are serious for some reforms."

Referring to the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon, Birri said "Syrian forces were invited to Lebanon by us and will naturally pull out from the country after withdrawal of Israel and establishment of a fair Islamic system in Lebanon."

Birri and Druze leader Junblatt along with Lebanon's Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban and Subhi Tufayli and Palestinian leaders Col Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Ahmad Jibril were in Iran for talks on the Lebanese issue.

Principle of Ties With Saudi Arabia Defended

PM0510154189 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Sep 89 p 24

[Unattributed report on 17 September statement in the Majlis in Tehran by Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani, chairman of the Majlis Foreign Relations Committee]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani was the third pre-agenda speaker at the Majlis session. He thanked his colleagues for their profuse criticism of his earlier interview and said: There is nothing more beautiful than a Majlis deputy being able to make his remarks freely, without fear of creating an difficult atmosphere and without having to censor himself. This healthy situation that we have in the Majlis makes us proud.

He then stressed he had been right to give an interview on establishing ties with Saudi Arabia and gave his reasons: Establishing ties with countries does not meaning approving all their policies, internal or external. One of the reasons for establishing ties with other countries is to convey our views to them, to have some effect on their decisionmaking, to move their policies in a direction that would benefit us. There is no reason why the area of Saudi Arabia should be in the hands of Iraq alone, why we should have no say in it. It would be very good if there were a balance so that we could have an active presence there as well.

Following the acceptance of Resolution 598, our policy in the Persian Gulf, especially with regard to establishing peace and eliminating tension, has been applauded. The late imam said that accepting the resolution was not a tactical move to continue the war, but that we really wanted to see the resolution implemented. These statements indicate the highest aim of reducing tension and resolving issues in a peaceful way. Of course, this does not mean we have to compromise with Iraq or turn our face away from establishing diplomatic ties with Saudi Arabia.

We have serious problems with Saudi Arabia. These include legal issues, political issues following the disaster in Mecca, the issue of quotas for the number of Iranian pilgrims, and the nature of the pilgrimage, and the demonstrations there. We must reach agreement on these problems. Can we solve these issues by breaking off ties with a country? Or should not the Islamic Republic, as a respected power in the region, come forth confidently to guide the issue, prepare the groundwork, and convince the other side to come and solve the problems?

Raja'i Khorasani continued: How long should our people be denied the opportunity to visit the holy mosques? We undertook the revolution so that the people could carry out their religious duties. We would like to establish relations with Saudi Arabia so that the way will be opened for performing the pilgrimage—of course, with the conditions set forth by the Islamic Republic.

Saudi Arabia is one of our natural markets. We must have ties with them and with other Persian Gulf countries, and we must safeguard the leadership role the Islamic Republic of Iran has in the region. [passage omitted]

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Condemns Saudi 'Crimes'

NC0510175489 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 25 Sep 89 pp 1, 10

[Editorial: "The Al Sa'ud Record Is Becoming Blacker"]

[Excerpts] The Saudi executioner recently martyred 16 imprisoned Kuwaiti pilgrims to the house of God. Confirming a report on this, the Hijaz regime alleged that these people were involved in the Mecca bombing.

This incident can be studied from various aspects and should be carefully viewed. The impudence and irrationality of this horrific Saudi action points to the existence of a plot, and the hand of the Al Sa'ud's American masters can clearly be seen.

In this scenario, Islamic issues have been trampled on and neglected in such a way that one can rule out the possibility that a Muslim hatched this satanic plot, even if he may have had a strong motive against the followers of some religious or political beliefs.

Whatever the motive behind the pilgrimage bombing, this act is completely rejected and condemned. And this is why the Saudis should be condemned for having perpetrated this heart-rending crime. [passage omitted]

Who could massacre pilgrims to the house of God and God's guests? The unforgettable incidents of the yearly pilgrimage shows that this is something which only the Saudis and their mercenaries, whose acts show no respect whatsoever for the house of God and the sanctity of the holy shrines and who have resorted to massacres even inside the sanctity of the house of God, could have done. [passage omitted]

The Saudis organized the Mecca explosion in order to blame pious forces faithful to the "world movement of Islam" and to claim that these forces are harming the security of the holy shrine. The Saudis will not benefit, however, either from the massacre of the 400 guests to the house of God or from their recent anti-Islamic act.

Matters of such great dimension will undoubtedly now remain a secret forever, and after these incidents the Saudis, more disgraced than ever, will have to answer to the world of Islam about why, on whose orders, and with what motives they perpetrated so many crimes, savagery, violations of the sanctity of the house of God, and the massacring of the guests to the house of God. The Islamic world is patiently waiting for clear answers to these questions.

Commentary Assails Saudia Arabia for Executions

NC0510202089 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 23 Sep 89 pp 1, 15

[Commentary: "On the Margin of the Execution of 16 Kuwaitis in Saudi Arabia"]

[Text] In an official statement, the Hijaz regime announced that 16 Kuwaitis arrested on charges of causing an explosion during the hajj this year were beheaded on Thursday.

This statement should be studied from two perspectives. The first is that breaching security in the sanctity of God's house by anyone is condemned, and perpetrators of this should be punished.

In the sanctity of God's house even animals and plants are secure. During the hajj, the uprooting of a bush or the killing of a mosquito is punishable, let alone causing an explosion or killing human beings.

But whether the people who were executed were bombers or not is another consideration that should be studied. Everyone knows the Saudi regime perpetrated two big massacres in the sanctity of God's house. One was the massacre of several opponents of the regime inside the holy shrine, as a result of which the ground around the Ka'bah was tainted with the blood of these people. The other was the massacre of the pilgrims to the house of God during the pilgrimage in 1366 [year beginning 21 March 1987]. Therefore, on the basis of what was said above, all the officials and people who had a hand in the two massacres in the sanctity of the Ka'bah should be punished, and naturally the Al Sa'ud rulers should be beheaded.

But a glance at the process of events in holy Mecca makes us reach the conclusion that those who were truly responsible for creating insecurity in the sanctity of the Ka'bah have punished several others on these charges. And this is what puts a question mark at the end of the sentence that was issued.

Moreover, Saudi officials have shown that the only thing they can do well in confronting their opponents is to lie. These very officials wrote to the imam of the ummah a few years ago that Iranian pilgrims were chanting slogans of "Almighty Khomeyni" near the house of God or that during the bloody hajj, the Iranian pilgrims intended to steal the Ka'bah and to transfer it to Qom.

Facts show that the Saudi regime caused the explosions during this year's hajj in a premeditated plot to distort the face of revolutionary Muslims and that it arrested a number of Muslims that had previously been under surveillance. A similar plot was the Rex movie theater tragedy in Abadan which was perpetrated by the wretched Pahlavi regime.

In order to complete its plot—the orders for which were received from the White House—the Saudi regime murdered the arrested people. If this was not the case, then the Saudi regime would have given these people an open trial. The absence of an open trial and the fact that the news on the sentence was published after the execution only proves more strongly that the Saudis were terrified to reveal their false accusations. They know that no revolutionary Muslim is prepared to violate the sanctity of the house of God and that it is the Saudi rulers themselves who do not hesitate to kill hundreds of pilgrims, be they old or young, men or women.

All this proved, once again, that the Wahhabi rulers of Riyadh are not capable of being in charge of the holy shrines and that the world of Islam should find a solution to this.

Meanwhile, Muslim governments and nations should demand that the Saudi rulers explain the massacre of the 16 Kuwaitis. This is not an issue between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The hajj and its security concern the world of Islam, and a competent court should be set up to look into the Saudi regime's allegations. If these allegations are proven to be false, then such plots which may be repeated every year should be confronted.

The impudence of the Hijaz regime in massacring pilgrims has become a modus operandi for the Riyadh royal court today. This dangerous process will not only destroy the security of the shrine, but it will also make Islamic teachings its target. There is no guarantee that the Wahhabi regime will not dictate its own hajj rules to the pilgrims in the future and thus abrogate the traditions of the prophet and divine teachings. Therefore, today all Muslims and especially Islamic governments have a vital duty before them. It is a source of regret that the Islamic Conference Organization only uses the label "Islamic" in its title and keeps silent on the Mecca incidents. Is not the massacre of pilgrims an Islamic issue?

At any rate, there is no doubt that the massacre of the Kuwaiti pilgrims was an engineered plot and that the Hijaz rulers have no convincing reasons to prove their allegations. This is something that should be looked into by Islamic governments and especially by the Islamic Conference Organization.

Guardians Council Says Immunity Law Anti-Islamic

LD0510200989 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Council of Guardians has discussed the bill on the investigation of judicial issues concerning Majlis deputies that was approved at the 27 September Majlis session. The council expressed its views as follows.

The single article bill has given Majlis deputies special privileges in the investigation of accusations against them. This is contrary to the principle of the equality of all before the judiciary and of providing equal support to all the people under the law. There is a need for removing unnecessary privileges. It is also contrary to the meaning and spirit of Article 140 of the Constitution, and its implementation would in some cases prejudice the right of some plaintives and would cause them harm. Therefore, it is contrary to Article 3, Paragraphs 9, 14, 20, and 140 of the Constitution. From a shari'a point of view, it does not correspond with Islamic judicial principles and the equality of all in Islamic justice; it is contrary to the shari'a.

Also, the bill on employment and social facilities provided for the war-disabled [janbazan], approved in the 4 September session of the Committee on Revolutionary Organizations and in the 17 September session for a 2-year trial period, was discussed by the Council of Guardians. The view of the council is as follows:

In the text of the decree by His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise, dated 28 February 1979 on the formation of the Foundation of the Oppressed, it is clearly stated that the moveable and fixed assets of the foundation which were seized from the hated Pahlavi dynasty and its agents and affiliates will be administered by the foundation and should be used for the expenses of the poor and weak workers and employees. As these assets do not belong to the government, the government is therefore advised that these assets do not belong to them. Thus, the government and the Majlis cannot pass laws and make decisions regarding the Foundation of the Oppressed and the Disabled. The passage of any regulations should be with the permission of the leader. Therefore, Articles 7, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, and 20 and Note 2 of Article 8 and the note of Article 13 on decisions regarding the Foundation of the Disabled are contrary to the views of the rule of the jurisconsult and as a result, are deemed to be contrary to the principles of shari'a.

In today's meeting of the Council of Guardians elections were held for members of the central committee in charge of supervising the mid-term elections of the third Majlis.

*** Editorial Affirms Continued Need for Unity**

46400100 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 22 Aug 89 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Our Need for Unity Has Not Ended"]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful. During the last few days, certain issues arose in the Majlis which, for various reasons, call for deliberation and discussion.

Certain Majlis representatives interrupted the order of the day to demand an explanation from the minister of heavy industries concerning the record of violations committed by the Saipa company. The minister of heavy industries appeared before the Majlis. He heard the comments and objections of supporters and opponents in the Majlis, as well as the report of the investigation committee in regard to the matter and stated his reply. Finally, a vote was taken and the Majlis expressed its confidence in the minister of heavy industries by 132 votes.

The facts of the incident and the inquiry of the Majlis representatives regarding the performance of the executive system are points of basic strength for the Majlis and the Islamic Republic's system. This incident also shows that the Majlis is aware of its duties and responsibilities. In the performance of its duties, the Majlis has considered it necessary to examine the file of the secret and open violations committed by the Saipa company. This is the natural right of the Majlis and duly accords with the Constitution. The manner in which this "right" was exercised and relentlessly pursued, in the last working days of the present administration, however, does not appear so natural or normal, and indicates that perhaps issues other than efforts to throw light on the matter or the righting of wrongs were being propounded. This is the subject of our discussion.

The question is not why some of the Majlis representatives appeared sensitive to the pursuit of the matter of violations by the Saipa company, but rather, why it happened in this way. In view of its importance, the issue of Saipa's violations should normally have come to the attention of the Majlis and, naturally, the minister of heavy industries should, by law, be answerable for the violations of a company under his jurisdiction and responsibility. The manner in which the minister was interrogated, however, brings to mind another point; to a great extent, one could feel a kind of politics being played with the philosophy of continuation and this needs to be discussed.

It is the natural right of the Majlis representatives to review the performance of the executive system and the incidents occurring under the jurisdiction of each of the cabinet ministers and to demand from the minister concerned a satisfactory explanation of matters that require deliberation or have a negative aspect. However, was the interrogation in the Majlis inspired by such objectives and motives? When investigation into executive matters and violations that may have occurred in areas under the jurisdiction of a minister are directed into such a particular channel, the real issue becomes tainted, and instead of answering and explaining the facts of the matter, the minister is forced to propound his past skirmishes and unveil the other plots of "political terrorism" being attributed to him. Naturally, less attention is paid to the real issue.

Investigation of issues is the natural right of the Majlis and it depends on the Majlis representatives as to how they use this natural right: to strengthen the system and bring about reform or to settle group and ideological scores. Perhaps not all the deputies who took an active part in the interrogation were inspired by such motives but, unfortunately, the events that took place evoked such sad and negative thoughts.

The nation and those who care for Islam and the revolution expect the representatives of the people to recognize the gravity of the situation and to act accordingly. Let us not forget that only a short time has elapsed since the death of the imam and after his death, we suddenly awoke to reality and saw that we were orphans; the loving and kind father who called for unity and was hurt by fruitless and ungodly arguments is no longer among us. Let us not forget that after the imam's death, all of us listened to the voice of our conscience in the search for preserving national unity. Up to this juncture, we can justifiably say that all have lived up to their responsibility for preserving unity and this deserves commendation.

Brothers, our need for unity is not over and you know very well that the enemies of the revolution are lying in ambush and hoping that this unity is "breakable and temporary." Our enemies have repeatedly and openly said this and congratulated themselves that the period of the unity of the people and the authorities in Iran will be a very short one.

In spite of all their viciousness, our enemies were unable to break the God-given unity of this nation; however, it is easy for those who belong to this nation to break this unity. But why? Why should we not reflect more on the last exhortations of the imam and the sensitive nature of present conditions? All of us cried when we heard the last testament of the imam and promised ourselves to protect the revolution, the last great inheritance left by the imam, with our body and soul. If we devote our thoughts to the continuation of the imam's way, then surely there will be no time left for ideological quarrels, for vindictiveness which in reality hurts the nation and the revolution, and the propounding of issues in a way that smacks of ideological quarrel.

Come, let us give greater thought to the path traversed by this warrior nation with such patience, effort, and valor. Investigation and deliberation is the natural right of the Majlis, but this right should be exercised in a way which strengthens the system and disappoints the enemies of Islam.

Presidential Bureau Deputies Appointed

LD0510060489 Tehran IRNA in English 0602 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Four deputies for Presidential Bureau were appointed on Wednesday. The appointments were proposed by head of the Presidential Bureau Mohammad Mir Mohammadi and approved by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Hoseyn Shamsa'i is appointed deputy in charge of liaison of the bureau, Mohammad Honardust deputy in charge of bureau's international affairs, Nabiullah Mohajeri deputy in charge of public affairs and finally 'Abdol Sattar Halajiyan bureau's director general for secretariat.

Interior Minister Views Security Forces Role

LD0510222289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] This morning, Interior Minister Nuri addressed a gathering of officials and commanders of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, saying: Security forces occupy a special position among military forces, and the Gendarmerie, due to the extensive scope of its field of activities, has a special place among the security forces.

According to an IRNA report, the interior minister expressed his appreciation to the Gendarmerie personnel who, in the course of 8 years of holy defense, fought against the aggressive enemy side by side with other military forces and offered precious martyrs to the Islamic revolution, and who at the same time also by safeguarding the security of roads and villages confronted the insurgents and the counterrevolutionaries. He also stressed the need for strengthening the security forces and said: If it were not for the strength of the security forces, whether the police, the Gendarmerie, or the [revolution] committees in towns, villages, and watching the roads, violations would increase day by day and the violators would become bolder.

Regarding the amalgamation of security forces, the interior minister said: This issue was raised in the Ministry of Interior and discussed, and we hope that it will be resolved in a manner which is in the interests of all the security forces, including the police, the committees, and the Gendarmerie, and that it will be sent to the appropriate authorities for approval.

According to this report, the interior minister arrived in Bushehr this afternoon in order to meet the people, to become acquainted with the officials, and to introduce the new governor general of Bushehr Province.

Commentary on President's Remarks to IRGC Chiefs

NC0510173289 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 20 Sep 89 p 24

['A. Marvi commentary: "The Process of Peace or the Process of War"]

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, recently addressed the annual gathering of the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] on Iran's steadfast position on the peace talks with Iraq. He emphasized the fact that ending the Iraqi occupation of our territories is an irrevocable goal and that ultimately Iran will not hesitate to use force to achieve this end. This emphasis is an extremely important development in Iran's position after the establishment of the cease-fire. During the past year a clear answer was not given on whether the political leadership of the country would resort to force in order to end the occupation of parts of Iranian territory. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's emphasis at the annual gathering of the IRGC commanders, however, was a clear and explicit answer to this extremely important question. That Iran should take this position is a negative development in the process of political-military confrontation between Tehran and Baghdad, but it stems from the Iraqi regime's insistence on direct talks before its withdrawal from the occupied territories.

Despite the continued cease-fire between Iran and Iraq during the past year, particularly after the failure of the UN secretary general's efforts in Belgrade, signs of an exacerbation in the conflict between Baghdad and Tehran can be seen both in matters concerning the peace talks and in their foreign policy, on, for example, Lebanon. This can lead to increasing regional instability. A strong confrontation continues between Iran and Iraq over relations with members of the [Gulf] Cooperation Council, a favorable quota in the oil market, relations with the Kurdish minority, the absence of progress in the talks concerning UN Security Council Resolution 598, the Lebanese crisis, and many other issues. All these do not paint a very optimistic picture of the region's future. The Iraqi regime now has two paths before it: flexibility in the talks, or "war."

This side has, as the process of events shows, the necessary determination and capability to take whichever of these two paths Baghdad chooses.

Gendarmerie Official Comments on Drug Seizures

LD0510220689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Interview with Brigadier General Shirvaniyan, chief of staff of the Gendarmerie, by an unidentified correspondent, from the "In Step With Officials, in Line With the People" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Correspondent] We have a question for Brigadier General Shirvanian, chief of staff

of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic. General, in view of the extensive plan to combat drugs in the country, could you please tell us what measures have been taken by Iran's Gendarmerie so far?

[Shirvaniyan] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With thanks. As the dear listeners are aware, in accordance with the law the selfless brothers of the Islamic revolution committees are in charge of fighting narcotics. This does not mean, however, that the selfless warriors of Iran's Gendarmerie units are scattered [in various outposts] and in view of the might of these brothers in the country's eastern borders, they continue their relentless fight against bandits and the merchants of death. Since last year these selfless brothers of Iran's Gendarmerie have succeeded in seizing large amounts of narcotics. During the first 6 months of this year, our dear brothers, our colleagues at Iran's Gendarmerie in the eastern region of the country, have seized more than 5 tonnes of narcotics and in this connection, arrested about 500 people, and handed them over to justice. I would like to add that thanks to the relentless struggle of our dear brothers in the revolution committees and also the dear brothers of the Gendarmerie, we have succeeded to a large extent in stopping the arrival of large quantities of narcotics. As far as recent statistics and reports show, the amount of narcotics arriving in the country are now small, not in convoys, but carried by individuals in their luggage. Our Gendarmerie brothers, however, are not negligent in these methods either; they retrace these individuals' itinerary overnight, arrest them, and hand them over to justice organs.

[Correspondent] Thank you, General. We wish our brothers in the Gendarmerie along the borders of the Islamic homeland success. [passage omitted]

Air Force Repairs Badly Damaged C-130 Plane

LD0510154189 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Hamadan, Oct. 5, IRNA—For the first time in Iran, a C-130 Hercules transport plane damaged during the Iraqi imposed war, was repaired by the Air Force experts, and successfuly test-flown at Shahid Nojah Air Base here Thursday. It took the Air Force experts a total of 50,000 hours to repair the plane damaged by 40 percent in an Iraqi air raid on the Shahid Nojah Air Base.

A number of military commanders and local officials were present at the air base to watch the successful test flight.

Ahmad Khomeyni Addresses Imam's Relief Committee

LD0510152489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Officials and staff from the Imam's Relief Committee from all over the country met Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni this morning.

In that meeting, Mr Asgarowladi first paid tribute to the valuable guidance of his holiness the imam to the officials of the relief committee. He further expressed thanks for the assistance provided by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni aimed at resolving some of that committee's problems since its foundation.

Then Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni paid tribute to the officials of Imam's Relief Committee. Addressing them he said:

The imam always prayed to God for your success in your valuable service. We all must be behind the leadership and defend the objectives of the imam and our dear and popular leader, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i.

In conclusion, he stressed the necessity of continuing and defending the aims of the revolution and the imam of ummah, may God approve of his deeds, as well as lending support to the deprived people.

Health Minister Cited on AIDS Conference

NC0310125589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 28 Sep 89 p 13

[M. Setayesh report]

[Text] Tehran—Iran will host the 36th World Health Organization (WHO) conference for the Eastern Mediterranean beginning Saturday for four consecutive days.

Minister of Health Dr Iraq Fazel speaking at a press conference yesterday said that the conference will be participated in by 12 countries and will discuss local and regional issues relating to public health.

Fazel denied rumors of a cholera epidemic striking from Turkey across to Iran and said there should be no cause for fear since 90 percent of the urban and 70 percent of Iran's rural population were provided with clean pipe-borne water.

He said in answer to a question that the fatal Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) disease is fairly well-controlled in Iran and that the four known cases have been adequately dealt with and that another 400 suspected of being prone to the disease are under treatment. He added that Iran was not among those countries in which the disease has to be a cause of concern.

Fazel said both Saudi Arabia and Iran [as published] have been invited to attend the WHO meet here, but that they would in all probability not come.

Official Cited at WHO Conference

NC0210081289 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] The 36th meeting of the WHO regional committee discussed the prevention and treatment of AIDS in its second session in Tehran today.

Speaking on this issue, Dr Sadrizadeh, who chairs the Iranian AIDS Control Committee, said that the spread of the disease through the sharing of syringes and contaminated needles has been controlled, but sexual promiscuity is still a social issue which requires the attention of health officials worldwide.

He said that more than 70,000 blood samples have been examined in Iran since 1985 and no cases of the existence of the AIDS virus have been observed so far. The official added that the most effective way to prevent the spread of the disease is make the public aware of the problem. In this afternoon's session hepatitis and dental hygiene will be discussed.

1st Phase of Abadan Petrochemical Plant in Use

LD0510143789 Tehran IRNA in English 1403 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Abadan, Khuzestan Prov., Oct. 5, IRNA—The first phase of the reconstructed Abadan petrochemical plant was inaugurated by First Vice-President Hasan Habibi today.

Reconstruction work on the war-damaged plant started December 22, 1988 and it took 3.20 billion rials (43.62 mn dlrs) to become operational.

Located near the giant Abadan refinery, the petrochemical plant was built in 1969 with a capital of 3.17 bn rials (43 mn dlrs).

During the first phase, the rebuilt plant will turn out an annual production of 15,000 tons of polyvinyl chloride (P.V.C.) and 10,000 tons of hydrochloric acid. Once the second and third phase become operational the plant would produce 40,000 tons of P.V.C. and 24,000 tons of caustic soda annually.

Damage to the different units of the plant during the eight year old Iraqi war, ranged between 50 to 95 percent, but following the ceasefire last year, Iranian experts and workers swung into action and completed the first phase of reconstruction in less than ten months.

Potential consumption of P.V.C. in Iran is now over 150,000 tons annually, and is expected to increase to 250,000-300,000 tons within the next two years.

Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh, petrochemical officials of the Oil Ministry and a group of political and religious personalities were also present at the inaugural ceremony, and later accompanied the vice-president in inspecting the various parts of the plant.

'Huge' Gas Deposits Found in Fars Province

LD0510174689 Tehran IRNA in English 1335 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Huge deposits of natural gas have been discovered in Lamard, in the south of Fars Province, which would supply gas for 200 years, the Lamard deputy in Majlis (Parliament) has disclosed.

According to the Persian daily KAYHAN today, MP [Member of Parliament] Reza Hoseyni al-Madani said the town will soon have access to the international waters through a new road to the Persian Gulf coastline. He said the gas reservoir extends 80 kms in length and has a 12 km width.

"According to Oil Ministry experts the deposit is the third biggest in the country after Sarakhs in the north and Kangan in the south. It contains 8,000 billion cubic meters of gas in its western wing alone," the deputy said.

The Kangan gas field (Bushehr Prov) has an estimated 27,000 billion cubic meters of natural gas expected to last 620 years, he added.

Cooperatives Director on Wheat Surplus Purchases

NC0310114589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] The purchase of surplus wheat from farmers continues. By the end of Shahrivar [22 September] this year, 1,700 purchasing centers had bought 1 million tonnes of wheat from cereal growers in the country.

The managing director of the rural cooperatives stated this in an interview with our correspondent. He added that the hardworking farmers in Fars Province and in the Gorgan and Dasht areas had delivered 330,000 tonnes and 240,000 tonnes of wheat respectively, thus gaining first and second places in wheat cultivation in the country.

He also said: Cash prizes for wheat farmers have been stopped this year, and on the basis of a Majlis decision the price of wheat purchased from farmers has been increased. This price increase will be an effective element in encouraging the farmers to grow more in coming years.

The managing director of the rural cooperatives pointed out that sufficient numbers of combines have been placed at the disposal of wheat farmers. He expressed the hope that in coming years wheat cultivation machinery will be made available to farmers at the right time.

He said that on the basis of the recent Majlis decision the government will have to announce the price at which basic agricultural products will be purchased during the next agricultural year. Rural cooperatives throughout the country are ready to purchase agricultural products, he stated.

Moscow Defense of Tudeh Party Could Affect Ties

PM0510145989 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 27 Sep p 8

[Editorial: "Gorbachev's Perestroyka Has To Reach Moscow Radio Too"]

[Text] On 14 September 1989 Moscow Radio carried an editorial on the 48th anniversary of the establishment of

the banned Tudeh Party. In defending this party, it denied all charges brought against it including that of spying for the Soviet Union. The Moscow Radio commentator said that the word "treason" used in connection with the Tudeh Party leaders was "frightening and disgraceful." It claimed that this party had a major role in toppling the last regime and that it was accepted by the people after the revolution. The radio went on: History repeats itself: once as tragedy and disaster, and once as farce. The tragicomedy, however, that was the trial of the Tudeh Party members did not fool too many people.

The truth is that, if we can say one thing about the Tudeh Party on which its supporters and its opponents can all agree, it is its dependence on the Soviet Union. That dependence has been cited by some as being in the spirit of internationalism and by others as pure treason. In order that Moscow Radio should understand the truth of the matter and the adverse affect of this broadcast on relations between the Soviet Union and Iran, we think it useful to discuss the following points:

1. From the start of communists' activities in Iran, dependence on the Soviet Union was a foregone conclusion. The internal communists behaved in accordance with the "mother party." There is little evidence of their independence. The treason against Mirza Kuchak Khan, cooperation with Reza Shah during his early years, the treason of Pishehvari in separating Azarbayjan, the issue of oil in the north, the lack of cooperation with the national movement, and so forth are all examples of Tudeh and communist cooperation with the USSR. Even after the revolution we witnessed the actions and plots of the Tudeh Party and its policy of influence and overthrow. So the "treason" of the Tudeh Party, despite its being "frightening and disgraceful," is not something that can be denied. The confessions of Kyanuri, former secretary general of the party, and the undeniable confessions of Tudeh infiltrators in the armed forces all speak of this dependence on the USSR. Anyway, the Moscow Radio defense itself speaks of the party's links with the Soviet Union.

2. The expansion of ties between our country and any other nation depends on the other country's noninterference into our internal affairs. This of course applies to the Soviet Union as well. Moscow Radio, which tries to portray Soviet policy in various fields to Persian speakers, has in effect meddled in our internal affairs in a very naive way by its act of defending the Tudeh Party, whose treason has been proved to the people of Iran as well as to the trial judges. Naturally, if this is repeated it could affect the expansion of ties between the two countries at a time when officials from both sides are trying to expand ties. On the other hand, this sort of issue creates uncertainty in the positive feelings our people are getting about the Soviet Union. It brings back memories of that country's previous past as a meddling government, a situation with which Soviet officials would not be pleased.

3. It seems that this kind of hurried action can be regarded in terms of the "young" and the "old" in the Soviet Union. Gorbachev's policy changes have encountered fierce opposition from those who want to preserve past values and policies, and his reforms have not taken hold everywhere, even in the Communist Party, particularly as there are those within the Communist Party who are still faithful to the old ways and are against Gorbachev's reforms. In any event, we hope these reforms reach Moscow Radio as well to make them change their policy of this illogical defense of a treasonous party, so that the negative affects of this kind of position does not affect relations between Iran and the Soviet Union.

Tudeh Party Central Committee's Statement

LD0310125689 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] We present the first bouquet [to mark the Tudeh Party anniversary] with the message of the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran on the occasion of the start of the 49th year of the party's revolutionary activity during the 48 years of struggle for the improvement of people's lives. Following is the statement of the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran:

Once again the anniversary of Iran's Tudeh Party is approaching. The eventful, but proud history of our Tudeh Party which has truly been written in blood is nothing other than 48 years of continuous struggle in the path of the people's happiness and the country's independence, against imperialism, tyranny, and reaction. In these 48 years, innumerable worthy children of the party have given their lives for the realization of its high ideals. Some time ago, progressive humanity commemorated the anniversary of the start of World War II, a war which Hitler's fascism set ablaze to enslave the people of Europe and the other people of the world. Iran's Tudeh Party was founded in the tumult of that very war and during the spread of the cancer of fascism. In view of the circumstances of the time, it set as its first duty the battle against fascist propaganda, which had found a place for itself in our country. Hardly anyone would dare deny today the great importance of that struggle.

Our Tudeh Party became the bearer of the culture of political struggle in Iran and, for that very reason, in a short time, the most progressive and worthy workers and other toilers and intellectuals of the country were drawn to it. Now, nearly half a century has passed since the foundation of Iran's Tudeh Party. The struggle of Tudeh members during those years has always been very difficult and hard. We have never tread along a smooth road.

The Tudeh Party of Iran stepped onto the stage of struggle as the heir to the proud Communist Party of Iran. However, in comparison with the period of the [words indistinct] activity of the communist movement of Iran, times had changed and the party had to pursue the struggle of the Communist Party of Iran in entirely new circumstances. However, despite all the problems,

the political activity of the party during these years had a strong and decisive effect on Iranian society.

The party's services toward the mobilization of millions of toiling people in the struggle for the attainment of their rights, social illumination, and the dissemination of party and revolutionary thought, the promotion of political culture and struggle to unify all national and progressive forces in society are undeniable. The Tudeh Party of Iran always strove to stay clear of sectarianism and dogmatism and to set its political line in keeping with the distinct realities of society. Nonetheless, it is natural that at this or that juncture it may have committed a mistake or an error, especially in view of the fact that the circumstances of semi-overt and covert activity, which in many situations makes difficult the spread of intra-party democracy and the possibility of collective and all-sided decisionmaking; nearly throughout the period of the party's activity, [words indistinct] had been forced upon it. [sentence as heard]

Today we mark the 48th anniversary of Iran's Tudeh Party in circumstances when a year has passed since the horrific crime of the vice regency of the supreme jurisconsult regime against the strugglers of the path of freedom, independence, and social justice. What happened in the month of Shahrivar [month that began on 22 August] last year in the prisons of the Islamic Republic's regime was unprecedented not only in the history of our party, but in a way in the international history of the communist and workers' movement. In that mass killing, which occurred on the direct order of Khomeyni and under the foremanship of the regime's other movers, innumerable beautiful flowers of Iranian society were destroyed. The rulers of the Islamic Republic, with the willful killing of hundreds and thousands of innocent people, who were imprisoned in the regime's dungeons, especially, with their barbaric and inhuman methods of execution, burnt the sign of eternal historic disgrace onto their foreheads.

The Tudeh Party of Iran suffered the greatest loss from those crimes because a group of the best struggling, knowledgeable, and [word indistinct] children were among the victims. The martyrdom of hundreds of knowledgeable and struggling people were prepared to give their lives because of their belief in the party's ideals was, at the same time, a clear answer to all the enemies who [words indistinct] spoke about the destruction of the party and the end of its activity.

That was not the first time that they sacrificed Tudeh members for the sake of strengthening the foundation of dictatorial regimes, but history is always a witness to the failure of such desperate [words indistinct]. Reza Shah killed (Dr Taqi Erani), the great scientist, with the idea that he could in that way nip Iran's communist movement in the bud. But he could not prevent the spread of his ideas and his friends' ideas and the establishment of the Tudeh Party of Iran. The self-interested regime of Mohammad Reza Shah, too, sent group after group of Tudeh members to the gallows and annihilited them under torture. However, it was the dictatorial-monarchic system which fell to pieces in the end.

The reactionary regime of the Islamic Republic, too, which is treading a tested road once again, will not gain anything other than the falling to pieces of its medieval, religious dictatorship, a process which has already begun. Now, the death of Khomeyni has once again shaken the already shaky foundations of the rule of the jurisconsult's regime. Economic and financial bankruptcy, which is the result of 6 years of the usesless continuation of the war and the regime's crippled economic and social policy, has placed the country's economy on the verge of complete collapse and that is the greatest danger which puts the existence of the regime under question.

The level of poverty, homelessness, and unemployment has turned the country into a powder keg; the medieval repression is stifling people. The regime does not have a program for effective and real action which would respond to the rightful economic and social needs of the country. The impasse which the regime is facing will inevitably have its repercussions within the ruling administration. Contrary to the claims of the inheritors of Khomeyni, squabbles over power prevail, more intensely and critically than during his time. This too is natural. With the death of Khomeyni, an influential guide who supported both major factions has been removed from the scene. The way the new leader was appointed—by trampling underfoot the body of the regime's own Constitution, even before the referndeum for its amendment took place; the removal of the condition that the rule of the jurisconsult should be a marja' [source of emulation]; the staging of [words indistinct] presidential elections with the elimination of 77 of the candidates—demonstrated that even in the internal war between the factions, there is no sign of piety and ethics. The new leader and president both tried to take a step forward toward strengthening the foundations of their monopolistic rule by pushing aside the hardline faction. They were, however, faced with the tough resistance of their rivals.

At the same time, when the known assassins of the esteemed offspring of the masses, in prisons, in Islamic tribunals, and the Intelligence Ministry of the regime, have been appointed to some of the most sensitive executive and judicial positions, it became clear that the ranks of the system of the Islamic Republic after the death of Khomeyni, are still determined to increase repression and despotism and to crush any kind of free thinking and freedom of thought.

Presently, everyone is asking themselves: What is to be done? There is only one solution to these kinds of countries: organized and united struggle against the despotic regime of the rule of the jurisconsult—a regime which is the cause of increasing poverty, hunger, and public corruption, and also is the obstacle which prevents the normal and logical progress of society. To get out of the present impasse, the country needs a profound

change in the dimensions of its economic and social life. In the era of computers and lasers, in the era of space travel and nuclear energy utilization, the country cannot be administered by means of myth and magic, fortune-telling, or traditional religious jurisprudence [fiqh] and superstition.

Our present society needs contemporary knowledge and modern techniques and technology that are in contradiction with the nature of a theocratic rule. Dear compatriots, progressive social forces—a new modern and democratic system—should replace the present reactionary regime. This displacement can only be possible through the united struggle of all social strata and classes. Now that a year has passed since the establishment of the ceasefire, the state of neither war nor peace and the medieval repression are oppressing people just like the times when Khomeyni was alive—the Tudeh Party of Iran is continuing to propose that the slogan "Freedom and peace" remains as the principal axis of the unity of all the political, progressive and democratic, nationalist [melli] and patriotic forces.

We are not alone along this path. A number of other progressive and nationalist parties and organizations are asking the same question: What are those forces that are in opposition to the regime waiting for before they start talking among themselves? Time is passing quickly. The absence of a united and strong leadership is pushing people toward some form of reaction. It is clear that such a situation is not advantageous to the anti-people regime. The expection that the regime may fall by itself or that a hidden hand may emerge from a sleeve is deceptive. All progressive, democratic, and nationalist organizations belonging to the opposition should for once and for all uproot the greedy way of thinking that they alone can be an alternative. Under the present circumstances of our society—bearing in mind the formations and class structure of society which is the result of the operation of a variety of economic structures—one party or one organization cannot replace the present regime. Until such times when we grasp this simple reality, society will sink further into the abyss. And without doubt, our suffering people will rightfully consider that political parties and organizations are to be chiefly blamed. The sooner this unity is established, the sooner a solid, nationwide struggle starts in all the arenas, then the sooner will the life of this contemptuous and horrid regime whose hand is stained with the blood of tens of thousands of productive women and men of Iran be ended.

The 48th anniversary of the founding of the party is taking place in the wake of important changes that are taking place in different areas of the world and extensive discussions and debates in the worker and communist movements. The endeavor to understand all the dimensions of world developments and to take these into consideration in political policy formulations, just like the past, is among the greater duties of the party. At the same time, it should be emphasized that the party remains steadfast to its basic principles and beliefs; and it will not surrender to those who are trying—on the pretext of being progressive and reformist—to separate the party from its inner-revolutionary essence.

The Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran, sincerely congratulates all comrades on the 48th anniversary of the founding of the party. Let us once again renew our pledge, on this historic day which coincides with the [Zoroastrian] feast of Mehregan which is one of the greatest ancient feasts of the Iranians. We, belonging to the Tudeh Party, will always honor the memory of the Tudeh heroes, victims of the contemptuous regime of the rule of the jurisconsult; and we shall continue their relentless struggle along the path for which they lost their lives, until the victory of the people of Iran—courageously and selflessly. Salute the memory of Tudeh heroes and all the victims of the anti-people regime! Long live the Freedom and Peace Front. Let us go forward to overthrow the regime of the rule of the jurisconsult. Long live the Tudeh Party of Iran.

[Signed] The Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran

[Dated] Mehr, 1368 [23 September-22 October 1989]

President's Relative Dismissed From Hometown Post

LD0510175589 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Hashemiyan, a relative of Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the religious judge of Rafsanjan, has been dismissed from his post. The dismissal was due to his extensive bribetaking and corruption in the administrative and judicial organs of Rafsanjan following the protests of the people of that town. Hashemiyan was hated by the people of the region because he received huge bribes from pharmacies and because he gave waterpumps provided by the government to private homes. Hashemiyan's dismissal, despite the support of the president of the regime, is a sign of the intensity of clashes among the various ruling factions in that town.

Nepal

Foreign Ministry on Li Peng's November Visit

BK0410042989 Hong Kong AFP in English 2024 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Kathmandu, Oct 3 (AFP)—China's Premier Li Peng is due to make a four-day official visit to Nepal in mid-November on the second leg of a planned trip to three South Asian nations, a Nepal Foreign Ministry source said here Tuesday.

Mr Li is scheduled to arrive after his planned visit to Islamabad and will travel on to Dhaka, the source said, adding that during the visit he is scheduled to hold talks with his Nepalese counterpart Marich Man Singh Shrestha and will be received in audience by King Birendra.

Talks are expected to cover bilateral economic and political relations, and the possibility of Chinese assistance in building irrigation and hydroelectric power projects and supplying Nepal with essential goods.

The visit comes at a time when Nepal is experiencing shortages caused by a virtual blockade of the country's borders by India following a dispute over trade and transit treaties which expired in March and have yet to be renegotiated.

China is currently building a major road between Pokhara and Baglung in Western Nepal District, an international standard meeting hall in the capital and a cotton mill in southwestern Nepal, the official source said.

A Chinese Embassy source said "Mr Li will have ample time to hold exclusive talks with King Birendra and explain the recent political turmoil in Beijing."

The visit will also allow the Nepalese people to become aquainted with Mr Li who is virtually unknown here unlike senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and the late Mao Zedong.

Pakistan

Gandhi Greets Bhutto on Bangladesh Visit

BK0510162889 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has felicitated Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto on her successful visit to Bangladesh. Responding to a message given to him on her way back to Pakistan from Bangladesh, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said he valued the sentiments expressed by Ms Benazir Bhutto about their bilateral relations and the commitment to peaceful resolution of all outstanding problems.

Agreement With PRC To Prevent Tax Evasion

BK0610053089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Pakistan and China have signed an agreement for avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with effective taxes on income. Under the agreement, both countries will give tax concession in financial investment to their various enterprises. They will further increase cooperation in the socioeconomic sector to better taxation measures, particularly in business profits, dividends, interests, royalties, and fees for technical services.

Sind, NWFP Chief Ministers Lauds Bhutto's Party

BK0610051489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Addressing a big public gathering at Motigate in Lahore last night, the chief ministers of Sind and the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province], Syed Qaim Ali Shah and Mr Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, have said the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] government wants to promote national integration, love, and brotherhood among people of all the provinces and regions. They said the PPP was the only party which had its uniform manifesto and programs for the welfare of the masses of the four provinces.

The Sind chief minister, Syed Qaim Ali Shah, said Sind has always been an attractive place for people from Punjab, Baluchistan, and NWFP as well as Urdu-speaking people. These people settled in Sind even before the creation of Pakistan. The chief minister said his cabinet includes Punjabi-speaking, Urdu-speaking, and Pashto-speaking members besides Sindhis. This contradicts the claim of migration of non-Sindhis from Sind.

In his speech the NWFP chief minister, Mr Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, said the people's party will continue its efforts for strengthening democratic institutions in the country. He said this aim could be achieved with unity among people of different provinces. He alleged that public funds were being used for purchasing members of the NWFP assembly instead of spending on the welfare of the people of the Punjab.

Several federal ministers and party leaders also addressed the meeting.

Illegal Arms, Ammunition Recovered in Shekhupura

BK0610032889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] A press note issued yesterday by the Punjab government stated that a large quantity of illegal arms and ammunition was recovered from an unlicensed arms factory in Shekhupura District which is run by the [word indistinct] provincial assembly member, Mr Wasim Zafar. Wasim Zafar has been arrested and a case has been registered against him according to the relevant sections of law.

MUSLIM Reviews Islamabad's Afghan Policy

BK0410120589 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 Sep 89 pp 1, 5

[Nasima Zehra article entitled: "Pakistan's Afghan Policy: General Beg and Beyond"]

[Text] The Chief of Army Staff's [COAS] recent comments on the Afghan issue do not indicate his preference for any fundamental change in Islamabad's existing Afghan Policy.

During the September 13 marathon question-answer session with journalists, General Beg publicly stated the military leadership's position on the Afghan issue.

It is ironical that the first public expression of our civilian government's Afghan policy should emanate from GHQ [General Headquarters].

It only reinforces the general belief that Islamabad today follows the policy authored by visionaries of the barracks during the Zia era. General Beg emphasised that Mujahidin victory, political and military, is inevitable. He attributed the military setback in Jalalabad to faulty warfare strategy. The American decision to discontinue arms supply to the Mujahidin also prevented Mujahidin success at Jalalabad.

The military supports a political solution of the Afghan issue, claimed General beg. However he did not think that any move in that direction was possible unless Najib and the present PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] leadership were ousted from power.

The COAS appeared to believe that Najib's removal was imminent. His belief was based on the information provided to him by Armand Hammer, an American oil tycoon who met with General Beg in Islamabad recently.

This of course contradicts the stated Soviet position on Najib's removal. Moscow's continued military support of Kabul, despite Washington's speculation to the contrary, Moscow's refusal to work out a "deal" on the Afghan issue with Washington during the recent Stockholm Shevernadze-Baker meeting, and the inability of Afghan anti-Najib to unite, indicate no Soviet plan to unilaterally oust Najib.

However as part of an overall political settlement Moscow recognises that Najib and his cabinet may go. In fact UN officials claim that Najib himself knows he must go... but only as part of a comprehensive political settlement.

General Beg also emphasised the centrality of the Mujahidin to any political settlement. For Zahir Shah at present he claimed there was no role in any political settlement. Only if the Afghan people called for him to play a role, could he do so.

As one of the necessary steps towards a political solution after Najib's ouster General Beg called for a dialogue between the PDPA and the Mujahidin.

This call is only a repetition of Islamabad's stated position at various regional and international forums. Subsequent to Najib's ouster, Islamabad has always alluded to the possibility of dialogue between the Mujahidin—the interim government and "good Muslims" from Kabul.

Gen. Beg's passing criticism of Washington's decision to stop aid to the Mujahidin too carries no major policy implications.

Clearly General Beg's September 13 comments do not reveal fresh thinking by Islamabad on the Afghan issue. General Beg failed to address the existing hurdle in taking the very first step towards a political settlement. The hurdle is the absence of the Mujahidin. Washington and Islamabad's willingness to invite the UN Secretary-General to initiate an intra-Afghan dialogue.

The existing hurdle in the Afghan issue poses an enormous challenge to Islamabad. The military leadership is not competent to respond to this challenge, neither constitutionally nor by training, despite its patriotism.

In situations of war and conflict military leaders are trained to go for all-out victory. With total confidence in their strategy and often oblivious of the human suffering they normally go for the "kill".

In case of the present Afghan war, the history of Pakistan military's involvement based on misguided ideological justification and miscalculated strategic interest may make the Pakistan army's commitment to final ascendancy of the Mujahidin.

Two factors normally curb the military's professional enthusiasm to fight for the "kill", a military victory of the opposing forces or the political leadership's ability to rein in such professional enthusiasm through a political vision based on national interest combined with some vague moral ethic.

It is this challenge of reining in the military's enthusiasm for a total military victory that the Benazir government faces.

Benazir Bhutto must rise to the challenge. The endless Afghan suffering, the impossibility of a Mujahidin military victory and the reported Soviet willingness to ask Najib to step down as part of an overall settlement are developments that point towards the desirability and feasibility of a political settlement.

These developments virtually invite Benazir to take control of Islamabad's floundering Afghan policy. She must change its present orientation which is one of political and military victory for the Mujahidin. Islamabad must work for a political settlement according to the wishes of the Afghan people. This would be possible only through an intra-Afghan dialogue.

Primarily Benazir's Foreign Office team along with other "involved" institutions is competent to steer the Afghan policy in the right direction, a direction that would safeguard Pakistan's national interest without undermining the interest of the Afghan people.

Pakistan's interest would be safeguarded through the return of the Afghan refugees and a peaceful and friendly neighbouring Afghanistan.

Future Pakistan-Afghan relations will be determined by our economic and political relations with the next regime in Kabul. AIG [Afghan Interim Government] rule in Afghanistan is no guarantee for friendly Pak-Afghan relations. Intensely strained relations of victorious guerrilla

movements with patrons of their struggle amply support this contention; Bangladesh, Vietnam and China's relations with their former patrons are good illustrations.

Prolonged Afghan bloodshed must be avoided without undermining Afghan national interest. As the bloody war continues, Benazir should request the UN Secretary General to invoke the mandate he enjoys under the UN General Assembly consensus resolution of November 3, 1988 to help the Afghans set up a broad-based government.

All Afghan groups including the commanders, representatives of Shuras [consultative councils] inside Afghanistan, Zahir Shah and PDPA should participate in this, probably in an indirect, intra-Afghan dialogue.

Najib has promised to step down if there is a consensus among Afghan groups that he should do so. UN must move in fast.

Neither any visions of "strategic alliance" nor a desire to be led by Washington should render the Bhutto government paralysed any further on such a crucial political and foreign policy issue.

Sri Lanka

Northeastern Province To Raise 15,000-Strong Army

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[Text] In a fresh spate of violence in Sri Lanka, 18 headless bodies were found in a university campus near Kandy yesterday. Reports say that 16 more persons were killed elsewhere since Wednesday [4 October]. Officials say that the victims were believed to be members or supporters of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP—People's Liberation Front].

The Sri Lankan industries minister, Mr Ranil Wickremasinghe, has said that the government has taken all possible steps to help the JVP come into the democratic process. The JVP has been invited for the next formal sitting of the all-party conference convened by President Premadasa next Thursday.

Meanwhile, the chief minister of the Northeastern Province, Mr Varadaraja Perumal, talking to newsmen in Colombo said that the provincial government proposes to raise a 15,000-strong armed force by December. He expressed the hope that the Sri Lankan Government would see that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] kept its promise.